



Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

Upcoming Services

All Sunday services begin at **10:15 AM.**

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

Rev. Larry Hutchison
Consulting Minister

3773 N. MacArthur Rd.
Decatur, IL 62526
Phone: (217) 875-5442
www.uufd.org

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Mary Cleave
Joyce Throneburg

UUFD Trust Board:
Ken Robertson
Vern Thistlethwaite
Dave Snoeyenbos



June 2 "THE HUMAN COST OF OUR IMMIGRATION POLICY" Jennifer Carrillo

The goal is to give a comprehensive look at the issues of a flawed immigration policy in a short amount of time. Jennifer Carrillo is a young dynamic formerly undocumented immigrant who was brought to the US as a child. Throughout her life here she has witnessed and experienced injustices, exploitation and dehumanization that undocumented immigrants are forced to endure. This journey has inspired her to organize and empower other immigrants and non-immigrant allies to fight for the rights of immigrant families. Jenn is currently an immigrant rights organizer for Illinois Peoples Action -- a state wide, faith based community organizing group. Her mission is to educate people about immigration issues and the immigration reform bill, dispel myths about immigrants and most importantly, to give people of goodwill an opportunity to put their goodwill into action.

June 9 "REPRODUCTIVE JUSTICE: EXPANDING OUR SOCIAL JUSTICE CALLING" Dick Zaker, David Snoeyenbos, Rev Larry Hutchison

Every two years, the UUA General Assembly selects a new congregational study/action issue for the next four years. The 2012 General Assembly chose "Reproductive Justice: Expanding our Social Justice Calling". Reproductive justice represents a broader analysis of racial, economic, cultural, and structural constraints on women's power. The right to have children, not to have children, and to parent children in a safe and healthy environment is a human right. David will share his experience working locally on these issues. This is a beginning discussion study/action.

June 16 "THE WIDER MOVEMENT: A LARGER HOPE" Rev Larry Hutchison

What's happening in our UU movement beyond UUFD, beyond Decatur, in and beyond Central Illinois, across our land and beyond? As Debbie Perkins leaves tomorrow to be with her family and her British Unitarian congregation; what's happening there, beyond our shores? What is the Unitarian Universalist movement all about, today?? It's exciting!!

June 23 "THINKING ABOUT OUR PRECIOUS WORLD ... a short meditation on our history and prospects for nations to work together to solve common problems." Dr. Roy Wehrle

Professor Wehrle received his Ph.D in economics from Yale and served in the U.S. Foreign Service at top levels in both Laos and Vietnam. He later worked for President Kennedy in his Council of Economic Advisors. Since 1972 he has taught a variety of courses and seminars related to globalization and international relations at the University of Illinois-Springfield and Millikin University.

June 30 "WOMEN IN PRISON" Shelith Hansbro, Warden - Decatur Correctional Center

Since 2000, the mission of the Decatur Correctional Center is to provide a managed system of support and services for the female offender in order to re-establish and strengthen the relationship with her children. Ms. Hansbro came to Decatur 20 years ago as a Neighborhood Specialist for the City of Decatur. Since that time she has worked for a number of local and state government agencies and was appointed Decatur warden in September 2010. She manages a staff of 200 and 700 women at the minimum-security women's prison just two miles east of our Fellowship.

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

Calendar of Events

Wed., June 5 - 10:00 a.m.
Wednesday Morning Covenant Group

Wed., June 5 - 7:00 p.m.
Humanist Discussion Group

Friday, June 7 - 1:00 p.m.
Men's Lunch at Benny's Grill

Wed., June 12 - 6:00 p.m.
Women's Book Group

Wed., June 12 - 7:00 p.m.
Spiritual Journey Covenant Group

Friday, June 14 - 1:00 p.m.
Men's Lunch at Benny's Grill

Wed., June 19 - 10:00 a.m.
Wednesday Morning Covenant Group

Wed., June 19 - 6:30 p.m.
Decatur Vegetarian Society

Friday, June 21 - 1:00 p.m.
Men's Luncheon at Benny's Grill

Wed., June 26 - 7:00 p.m.
Spiritual Journey Covenant Group

Friday, June 28 - 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— The Women's Book Club will meet at 6 p.m. on Wednesday, June 12 at Sally Van Natta's, and the book is *The Hummingbird's Daughter* by Urrea.

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

Decatur Vegetarian Society (DVS) --- The DVS group meets the 3rd Wednesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. 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.

Wednesday Morning Covenant Group - This group meets the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays from 10 a.m. to 12 noon. We are discussing Eboo Patel's new book *Sacred Ground*.



Food Bank Sunday

Please bring a donation of non-perishable food items for local food banks to the Sunday service on June 16.



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

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

YOU, ME AND NEIGHBORLINESS

The day is just gorgeous here on the corner as the sun hides in a haze and the fresh mowed grass saturates the clear air in a never been greener kind of way. The gardens are plainly beautiful fully enjoying a peaceful movement while the trees in a metamorphic gesture have moved from blossom to leaf. Yet, our peaceful corner is totally invaded with the push of a button, the call of a job, the high speed of internet.

--Breaking news, always, breaking news -

Is internet changing our definition of neighboring today? Is it true a majority of us don't know our neighbors name though most are on facebook? That our children play more online than play outside? While the internet age, has brought unprecedented access to information, networks, and commerce, it's unclear if it has brought us closer or has in fact further isolated us.

Neighboring is about creating a story. It's about expanding our definition of self to include those who live above us, below us, beside us, across the street and down the street. It's a call to action of the most important kind: to let our neighbors in, and to build more self-reliant streets, blocks, and neighborhoods, together. It expands your heart and mind, and puts you on the same team, the neighborhood team.

Peace, Larry

News from Religious Education

Summer RE

From Lorelei, Kate, Jennifer, Linda and everyone who assists with Religious Education – have a fantastic summer!! Here is the Summer schedule for RE:

May 26 – June 30, we will have one class – all ages combined. Child care will be provided for children under 2.

- May 26 – Lorelei Zaker
- June 2 – Jennifer Sekosky
- June 9 – Lorelei
- June 16 – Jennifer S.
- June 23 – Kate Pyle
- June 30 – Lorelei



Through the month of July and August 4, there will be no RE classes. Child care will be provided for children under 5.

- August 11 – Jennifer S.
- August 18 – Kate P.
- August 25 – Lorelei
- Sept. 1 – TBA

Save the Date

Saturday, July 20th from 5 to 8pm, Monte and Joyce Throneburg are hosting a potluck at their farm east of Assumption. More details in the July newsletter.

General Assembly 2013 June 19-23, Louisville, KY

You are invited to attend the 2013 General Assembly (GA) in Louisville, Kentucky. The theme of this GA is "From Promise to Commitment." Building on the experience of Justice GA, we will gather in Louisville to examine and renew our covenant to our faith, one another, our congregations and the larger world.

Programs will explore the kinds of promises our religious communities are called to make as we seek to live out our Unitarian Universalist values; how we make these promises, with whom, and how we hold ourselves and each other accountable. Here are just some of the topics that will be addressed: environmental justice, the next steps in immigration justice, anti-racism, anti-oppression multiculturalism, organizing for justice, multigenerational work, growing Unitarian Universalism, leadership education, spiritual growth and theology. There will also be many, many opportunities to worship.

Registration information at <http://www.uua.org/ga/>

Success!! It Must Be a Sign!!

At the UUFD Annual Meeting on Sunday, May 19, 2013, the congregation celebrated another year of fellowship, community, and security. We can all enjoy the companionship, brotherhood, and confidence we feel around each other and the comfort this provides to everyone here at the UUFD. The Sign Committee was elated to receive this same, reassuring message. Per the unanimous congregational vote, the UUFD will now investigate replacing our existing sign with a new wayside pulpit.

Perhaps this comes as a surprise to some members or visitors of the UUFD? Maybe some of the newer members were not aware of the work done on this project? Or could the work have been too consolidated in the committee and the congregation wasn't aware of all the work that was going on "behind the scenes" in the Sign Committee?

To ensure information about the sign work is public and known to all interested, consider the work that has been done to date. John Hayes, a longtime member of the UUFD, put together a proposal starting in 2005. He suggested some basic LED additions to the existing signage, but his suggestions were only acknowledged, and no action was taken.

Several years passed, and nothing was done. In late 2010, though, a new sign committee was formed, and the committee began working with Shane from Bendsen Signs. Shane was very eager to get something in place for us, and he did extensive work to move the process along. The Committee got much information about the latest LED technology and all the advancements in signage. Unfortunately, work stalled on this project in late 2010 and nothing came of that effort.

But fear not! In December of 2012, Vern Thistlethwaite suggested the Sign Committee again form to consider a new sign. By this time, Shane had left Bendsen, but Jason was eager and ready to take Shane's place. The committee worked with Jason and got lots of new information from Jason. Furthermore, thanks to research done by John Hayes, the Sign Committee discovered another local dealer, Ace Sign Company, in Springfield. The Sign Committee began working with Ace, and another new proposal was in hand!

In addition to the committee work, the February, March, and April newsletter all had articles detailing work done by the sign committee. Although no formal announcements were made at Sunday services, the newsletter articles would hopefully keep the congregation informed.

All this was taken to the congregation at the Annual Meeting, and the UUFD liked the idea of replacing our sign. But... Yes, there were many reservations within the congregation. Why didn't everyone know about this new sign idea? Why didn't we discuss this more? How much will this cost? With these questions in mind, the congregation confirmed via unanimous consent that the existing sign on Macarthur Road must be replaced.

What is next? I expect a new committee will be assembled by the UUFD Board. Thankfully, though, the committee will not have to start at ground 0. With the abundance of work done and information already discovered, there is a wealth of resources to draw from. All this information is available on the members section of the website. Check out what is online so that you have all the information available to actively participate and be aware of the latest happenings for the sign project at the UUFD. Or just ask Tim Rooney to see the Sign Committee folder!

Humanists Discuss a Non Sequitur

The Humanists met on May Day last month. Although meeting on the first Wednesday of the month was usual, the topic for discussion was a bit unorthodox. The group discussed the role of women in the military, particularly the role of American women in the military now that females are permitted to fight on the front lines.

Karen suggested that our entire topic was moot, to a certain extent. Why is anyone fighting? Shouldn't the humanist STOP fighting and find some other way to resolve the conflict? Yes, Karen made a good point! Ignoring this obvious inconsistency in Humanists debating the best way to wage war, we moved forward in the discussion.

Tom started things off with an overview of the research he had done. This included some early instances of women in battle, although perhaps Athena, the Greek goddess of wisdom, courage, warfare, strength, and strategy was not the best human example. From the ancient times, Tom progressed through Vietnam, China, and Egypt. Next was Joan of Arc from the Middle Ages. With these worldly references noted, discussion moved to America and the role of women in the American Revolution, Civil War, World Wars, Korea, Vietnam, and today.

With the background material presented, discussion commenced. Carol suggested the root of the problem was advancement within the armed forces. Some levels of leadership were unattainable without combat experience. Since women could not participate in combat, they were ineligible for any of the senior roles within the military, and there was nothing the women could do about it. Why not remove that combat clause and allow women to advance to those higher positions?

Doug responded very appropriately. The military is not about fairness. It is about maintaining a fighting machine. Something that compromises the ability to maintain this fighting machine is a clear detriment to our readiness and should not be accepted. The military needs policies that will ensure equality yet does not jeopardize military readiness.

Kevin then noted some of the early roles of women in the United States Armed Forces. As Tom had noted in his presentation, women were very active as nurses in the armed forces. Another opportunity for women to contribute to the cause was Women Accepted for Volunteer Emergency Service (WAVES), and Tom didn't reference this at all. Kevin noted the great value and purpose of the WAVES in the Armed Forces. As an all-volunteer group, the WAVES were extensively involved in secretarial jobs as well as payroll and other administrative functions necessary to organize the American fighting force. Kevin also noted that these women were volunteering to assist in non-combat roles. The push for women to engage in combat wasn't part of the WAVES effort.

Adding credibility to Kevin's assertion that the WAVES wanted to help and not to fight, Tina suggested that some rewards might not be worth pursuing. Men are much more physiologically suited to war than women are. Why must women demand access to front line fighting when men's bodies are more suitable to the conditions in a war zone? Kevin replied that women must have access to those roles, simply to guarantee fairness under the law.

From here, the focus shifted to women's roles in the work force today. The group examined women in college, graduate school, and the gender distribution within many professions today. This wrapped up the discussion and Doug agreed to lead next month. What about July? With the first Wednesday in July being the 3rd, that meeting has already been canceled. Hopefully, many of you can join us for the next meeting, Wednesday, June 05, where Doug will lead us in discussion of human behavior.

June 2013



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.

June Birthdays

June Allison	June 29
Joan Brown	June 30

*Want to see your name on the birthday list?
Send e-mail to newsletter@uufd.org*



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

July Newsletter Deadline: June 15