



Rev. Larry Hutchison
Consulting Minister

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Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

Upcoming Services

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

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

November 3 - "Organizing For Justice" **Don Carlson, Executive Director of IPA** **Jennifer Carrillo, Community Organizer, IPA**

No, we don't mean organizing like "How can I unclutter my closet?...we mean ORGANIZING like "how can we organize to insure that immigrants are treated fairly in our community?". Illinois People's Action is a grassroots, faith-based organization that has worked with congregations and community members to fight for social, economic and environmental justice for over 17 years. UUFD is a member.

This is exciting! Come and participate in the power of organizing and building relationships.

November 10 - "Homeless not Helpless: Homelessness in Decatur" - Mary Garrison, Professor of Social Work, Millikin University

Mary serves on the Macon County Homeless Council and has conducted extensive research on this issue. Using the data from local surveys she will inform us about the problems in the Decatur area.

Board Meeting at noon.

November 17 - "Friendship, A Way Of Life" - Rev. Larry Hutchison

Aristotle wrote: "Friendship is a virtue which is most necessary with a view to living... for without friends no one would choose to live, though he had all other goods".

If friendship is so important to the good life and the common good, then it is important to ask the question, what is friendship? Or, what might be the "politics of friendship"?

November 24 - "Thanksgiving Service"

It is a Thanksgiving Extravangza! Multiple people will speak about what they are thankful for. We will sing, and there might be a special performance from the RE kids.

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

Calendar of Events

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

Wed., Nov. 6 - 10:00 a.m.
Wednesday Morning Covenant Group

Wed., Nov. 6 - 7:00 p.m.
Humanist Group

Fri., Nov. 8 - 1:00 p.m.
Men's Lunch at Benny's Grill

Wed., Nov. 13 - 6:00 p.m.
Women's Book Group

Wed., Nov. 13 - 7:00 p.m.
Spiritual Journey Covenant Group

Friday, Nov. 15 - 1:00 p.m.
Men's Lunch at Benny's Grill

Wed., Nov. 20 - 10:00 a.m.
Wednesday Morning Covenant Group

Wed., Nov. 20 - 6:30 p.m.
Decatur Vegetarian Society

Friday, Nov. 22 - 1:00 p.m.
Men's Lunch at Benny's Grill

Wed., Nov. 27 - 7:00 p.m.
Spiritual Journey Covenant Group

Friday, Nov. 29 - 1:00 p.m.
Men's Lunch 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 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday, Nov. 13 at Barb Hannon's and the book is *Rules of Civility: A Novel* by Amor Towles

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 November 17 .



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

MEMBERS AND FRIENDS OF UUFD

It is time to write this letter, the spirit does not wish to, but the body can no longer follow the spirit. I will be retiring at the end of my current contract, June 30, 2014. I feel sad writing this for these past two plus years with you here in Decatur have been so fulfilling and affirming, full of warmth, charm, love and care.

However, time stands still for no one and tomorrow is already moving in looking bright and beautiful like today here on the corner.

Nancy and I will be moving to Michigan to be near family, but will always hold in our hearts our dear friends here at UUFD.

Peace, Larry

NOVEMBER 3 SPEAKERS

DON CARLSON, Executive Director

Don is the founding staff member and Executive Director of Illinois People's Action, from 1996 to the present. Don has over 33 years of community organizing experience including staff and executive director experience. His responsibilities include oversight of all IPA staff and organizing campaigns, leadership development, organizational development and fundraising.

JENNIFER CARRILLO, Immigration Justice Organizer

Jenn began as an IPA volunteer leader in 2010. An Illinois State University Bone Scholar (highest honor at Illinois State) she began an internship in January of 2012 and has transitioned to full-time staff. Jenn spoke here in the spring and was great!!!

President's Message

I hope you are all enjoying these nice Fall days. They may be gone by the time this goes online! Our parking lot work has been completed and should be good for another 3 years, and several Fall housekeeping/maintenance chores have been done inside & out. The Holiday Season is upon us with all its hustle and bustle, but don't forget that we need coffee hosts and hostesses for this busy period. If you cannot serve, perhaps you might donate the goodies or share the job in some other way.

At our board meeting this month, we voted to accept the recommendation of our Outreach Committee to give the full \$500.00 to Oasis this year, rather than divide it between two organizations since they are in such need due to funding cuts. Oasis provides so many vital needs among our homeless citizens. We will also be repeating last year's Holiday project of assisting a couple of families in the Decatur school district with food and gifts. More details will be forthcoming on that project.

Other board action this month included (sadly) action toward selecting a committee to search for a new $\frac{3}{4}$ time minister for next year and planning for Holiday Season programs. Programs are another area where we can always use your suggestions and input. Your constructive ideas are always welcome!

See ya in church! Rita



News from Religious Education

Religious Education at UUFD

In November, we will continue with the combined group for RE. We have many fun activities planned to celebrate our seven principles and several holidays.

November 3 – Jennifer Sekosky

November 10 – Veterans Day with Lorelei Zaker

November 17 – Jennifer Sekosky

November 24 – Thanksgiving with Lorelei Zaker

Please join us and let Lorelei or Jennifer know if you can assist!

Humanism Group
By Tim Rooney

Corporate Social Responsibility

On Wednesday, October 2, the Humanism group explored corporate responsibility. What social obligations, if any, does a corporation have to society? How is this reflected in the mission of a business? How can we, as consumers, influence or encourage a change in corporate behavior? These were just some of the questions explored at our monthly meeting.

Tina began the discussion with a great overview and background of corporations. How did this business entity get its start? What role or purpose did this serve? How has that changed over time? What brought about this change? All those details were defined and discussed. It was very refreshing to learn that corporations, initially, had to fulfill some public purpose. Without a public service or purpose clearly defined, a corporation could not exist. The corporation existed only to further the life of the corporation and NOT to make money.

Next, in keeping with the historical nature of the discussion, Tina reminded us of some of the early corporations. First, we discussed the East India Company and the Hudson's Bay Company. These were great successes, but the first corporate failure or bubble bust goes back to 1720. The South Sea Company had great value initially, but when the prices plummeted, all the shareholders were left penniless. Hadn't we learned from these past mistakes? Apparently not!

Doug brought up a good point when he suggested the governments sometimes take over all the humanitarian responsibilities so there was no room for corporations to do anything humanitarian.

This brought up another concept of limited liability and how that affected shareholders. Before limited liability was instituted, stock owners were partially responsible for what the company did. If the company had an industrial accident, the stock holders held some responsibility there. When limited liability was introduced, the stock holders were only liable for stock and the money invested in the stock—nothing more.

Doug again added an interesting point. The libertarian perspective is to allow the businesses to decide on their own for social responsibility. Doug suggested this is not feasible because society is far too complex to allow corporations to set their own rules.

Leonard interjected that society must demand better wages and education if sustainability is to be seriously considered. But then the question was raised about instituting this demand as a law.

Tina then responded with a personal dilemma. As a teacher, she has to promote that shareholder wealth maximization is of utmost importance. But is this really the case? Shouldn't there be some social responsibility that precedes shareholder wealth?

Leonard responded with a tentative solution. Maybe one cannot boycott or completely avoid a business? At least raise concern with the management to voice disapproval of the situation.

Kevin added an experience of his own to demonstrate how a local business had taken steps to hire minority workers at a time when this was not mandated by law. The strategy was successful and that served as a great example of corporate social responsibility that everyone recognized.

This wrapped up the conversation and the group discussed what to converse about in November. Everyone agreed we would examine three divisions of Humanism: Secular Humanism, Religious Humanism, and Inclusive Humanism. Please meet with us on Wednesday, November 6 at 7:00 p.m. at the UUFD to join in the discussion.

November 2013

Thanksgiving

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.

November Birthdays

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|----------------|---------|
| Terry Ankrom | Nov. 19 |
| Barbara French | Nov. 29 |

*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)

December Newsletter Deadline: November 20