



THE PIONEER

July/August 2008

Paper Pulpit

The Rev. Adam Robersmith, Associate Minister

Praise with elation, praise every morning,

God's recreation of the new day!

--from "Morning Has Broken"

Hearing people sing the second line of the quote above has always made me laugh. Often, I hear both "recreation" and "re-creation" while people are singing with enthusiasm. Although the poet used the word "re-creation" in the original, speaking of the re-making of each morning, I think "recreation" isn't so out of line. After all, our times of play and pleasure help us to re-create ourselves as calmer, happier, renewed people.

Although most of us don't have summertimes free from our normal work, it's clear that our children and youth return to school with energies replenished after a summer that is relaxed and fun. Even a summer vacation can bring us back to our lives feeling replenished and ready to begin again. Here at UUSG, we are taking it a little easier over the summer: fewer classes and meetings, one service per weekend (rather than three), and preparing for the coming year. On these hot, humid days, it can be a relief to think about the coming cooler weather and what we'll be doing together then. For your UUSG Staff, that planning can either be stressful or simple – and there's really only one thing that we need in order to make our work easier: **information!** Whether through a phone call, email, or a personal conversation, your willingness to let us know what's going on with you will make it possible for us to plan well for the needs of the congregation. A "yes" or "no" about your ability to help provide hospitality as greeters or social hour hosts, 2008-2009 pledges turned in on paper or online (or a note saying, "we can't pledge this year..."), and signing up early as teachers or students in classes all help to ease the stress of planning. With 335 members and many more friends, our congregation is of a size where we need you to help us with direct (and early!) communication.

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Many thanks, in advance, for your help. We are looking forward to a good year and to finishing the summer praising every morning as both recreation and re-creation! We hope that you will be able to do the same.

Bright summer blessings,

Religious Education Announcements And Upcoming Events

From the Rev. Adam Robersmith

No Strings Attached: PUPPET MINISTRY

This past spring we had a wonderful time with our Peace Puppets curriculum and with the puppet shows that we staged in the Common Room. The efforts of Jean Pierce (writer of the curriculum), Jim Jenkins (stage creator & balloonsman), and Nancy Goodfellow (puppeteer and scriptwriter) made this a spring project that held the attention of all ages. Now we'd like to continue with this success! Nancy Goodfellow will be helping us create new puppets for new puppeteers...so if you have experience or a desire to play with puppets, please let Rev. Adam know right away.

Calling All Merchants: MARKETPLACE 29AD

We're beginning to think about future spring term projects for the church school – and the word is that children, youth, and adults loved "Marketplace 29AD." This curriculum creates a bazaar from Palestine in the time of Jesus, with opportunities to learn about the ways people lived and the types of ideas they would have been hearing. We'd like to think about offering this as a spring project again, so if you're someone who has been a part of this curriculum in the past, please come talk to Sandi Sumner or Rev. Adam. We need your help!

LREruitment: FALL TEACHING TEAMS

You may think that there's plenty of time before the church year starts, but Sandi, Rev. Adam, and the LRE Committee know better – it's coming up very quickly, and we need you to sign up to teach as soon as you're able. Our goal is to begin church school in September with full teaching teams. If you are new to UUSG, now is the time to get into a good habit of signing up early! It makes life much easier for us all. If you're a long-time member of UUSG, please do make the change to signing up early. We can't tell you how big a difference it makes in simplifying our preparations for the coming year.

The sign-up sheet for teaching in our church school this fall is up on the Volunteer Opportunities bulletin board in the Common Room. **The more we have our fall teaching teams built now, the easier it is for us to start teaching in September with three or more teachers per team.** This year, more than 80% of our teaching teams had three or more teachers – next year, we need it to be 100%. Please speak to Rev. Adam if you have questions or would like more information.

Upcoming LRE Events

July 27, 1:00pm	Coming of Age Program
July 28, 7:30pm	4 th Monday Small Group Ministry
July 29, 7:00pm	In the Name of Peace: Book Club & Shawl Ministry
August 3, 11:30am	UU Atheism/Humanism Study Group
August 3, 1:00pm	Coming of Age Program
August 10, 1:00pm	LRE Retreat
August 17, 1:00pm	Coming of Age Program
August 20, 7:00pm	LRE Committee Meeting
August 24, 1:00pm	Coming of Age Program
August 25, 7:30pm	4th Monday Small Group Ministry
August 26, 7:00pm	In the Name of Peace: Book Club & Shawl Ministry

Weekly Adult RE Opportunities:

Every Monday at 7:00pm in the Common Room:
"Still Living in the Present Moment"

Every Wednesday at 7:00pm in the Sanctuary:
Buddhist Meditation & Study Group

Current Happenings and Important Fall Changes in the LRE Program...

During our Summer Weekend Service at 10 AM on Sundays, Spirit Play is offered as the church school curriculum for children in Kindergarten through 5th grade. Spirit Play is a Montessori-based curriculum that teaches UU values through stories, self-directed activities, and group discussion. Childcare will be available for children pre-K and younger.

Beginning this fall, **church school will not be offered during the 5pm Saturday Worship Service.** Younger children may go to the nursery or stay in the sanctuary.

Have questions or comments? Please contact Rev. Adam at 630-414-5340 or RevAdamUUSG@comcast.net.

Summer Services at UUSG

Through August 31st, we offer our single Summer Weekend Service at 10 AM on Sundays, with a social time following. All services will be suitable for older children and youth; childcare will be available for pre-K and younger, and SpiritPlay is offered for Kindergarten through 5th Grade!

Here's the list of Summer Service presenters and the musicians who'll be assisting:

- July 27** Adam Robersmith, "How to Build A House" (Habitat Trip Celebration), with Mac Willaert
- August 3** Adam Robersmith, "Watchmaker, Webweaver, Accident, Plan," with Susan Conant
- August 10** Adam Robersmith, "A Harvest of Hope," with Alec Watson
- August 17** William Elbert, "Poetry Service," with Lynn Fisher McCanne
- August 24** Lindsay Bates, "Leaving Harbor," with Susan Conant
- August 31** Adam Robersmith, Labor Day Weekend, with Lynn Fisher McCanne

Then on Saturday, September 6, and Sunday, September 7, Lindsay and Adam will lead our Intergenerational Homecoming Celebrations, with Cynthia and Elena Spiegel providing our music. See you in church!

Treasurer's Report

At our annual meeting in May, we reported that the Finance Committee was of the opinion that we would have to draw down our reserves by the amount of about \$20,000 for fiscal year 07-08 in order to pay our bills. This was going to be about \$7000 higher than we had budgeted.

We are very pleased to report that at year-end we reduced the deficit to \$7879. This was due to a very successful sale of pizza and other goodies at our booth during Swedish Days. Bob Atac and his cast of many volunteers did a splendid job of hawking our product, augmented by particularly fine weather. In addition, a larger than normal influx of year-end pledges aided in this reduction.

We hope to continue this trend of living very closely within our means for the present year, with the goal of not having to dip into the reserves at all.

On a less promising note, we must report that our annual pledge drive showed a very disheartening trend. Our pledge units (members and families that pledge as a unit) are down by 19 units, or just over 10%, from total pledgers for last year. In addition, we had a number of first-time pledgers. Therefore, a substantial number of members who normally pledge decided not to do so this year. **This means that fewer and fewer are shouldering more and more of the financial burden of UUSG. This is not only unfair but obviously cannot continue. It is not too late to make your pledge for this fiscal year and we encourage each of you who have chosen to remove your name from the pledge rolls to reconsider your decision.**

Respectfully submitted,

George A. Tattersfield
Treasurer, UUSG

Kevin O'Neill
Chairman, Finance Committee, UUSG

Volunteer Headquarters

Volunteer Appreciation

A great big THANK YOU to some of this month's volunteers!

Ryan Wheeler and Diane Thornton, who arranged the Potter Room for this summer's Spirit Play class

David Tomell and Ray van Overberghe, who spent many hours repairing the light fixtures and adjusting the door to Lindsay's new office so she can have light and privacy

Patrick McGleam, who helped move some heavy items from upstairs in Pioneer House down into Katie's new office and the new Volunteer Office

Karen Moore, who's been seen weeding before the day gets too hot

All our Greeters and Social Hour Hosts, for making UUSG a welcoming place

All our LRE teachers, for dedicating themselves to UUSG children

If you know of someone who ought to be thanked for their volunteer work at UUSG, please let Katie know!

Your New Volunteer Office

Volunteers, your time has come! We have turned the former administrative office into a Volunteer Office, complete with supplies, mailboxes, committee files, and a worktable for YOU, your committees, and your groups!

The mailboxes have moved from Pioneer House into the new Volunteer Office. If your committee or group needs some filing space or a cubby to hold some of your supplies, or if you think of a way to improve this new office, please let Katie know.

The doors to this office will remain unlocked at all times. We're pleased to finally dedicate a space to our wonderful, dedicated, and beloved volunteers; all we ask is that you leave this space neater than when you found it!

Interested in Technology? Give the Technology Committee a try! The TechCom is looking for a few new members—if you're interested, contact Jeff Stibal, call or email Katie in the office, or show up at a meeting (first Mondays at 7:30pm).

Greeter & Social Hour Host Assignments

Many thanks to everyone who signed themselves up to greet and host social hour through September! If you didn't sign up, you may have received an email this past week about a date and time assigned to you.

In the past, we've sent this information in the mail, but in the interest of saving paper and money, we're hoping to confirm all the assignments via email. If you got an email and haven't yet replied, please do so this week!

And remember, as always, as much as we love to hear you say "Yes!," we understand that sometimes you just have to say "No, I can't."

Geneva Swedish Days Pizza Booth

Many thanks to EVERYONE who volunteered at this year's Pizza booth, and to the youth for making our booth the best-looking one in town!

This was one of our most successful years yet—our total profit was over \$8100.

Social Justice News

Super Summer Salad Supper

Fun for us and food donations for the needy!

Several of your UUSG friends are getting together to plan a SIMPLE salad supper on Sunday, July 27th. We will gather about 6pm in our Common Room. The idea is to bring an item chopped, sliced, or otherwise prepared, to share in the salad and ALSO to bring a donation (money or non-perishable items) for the Northern Illinois Food Bank. We will provide beverages and any other items that do not get donated. Please contact Gail Tattersfield to pick what salad item you will be bringing and to let us know how many in your family plan to attend. The sign-up sheets will also be available Sundays at church until we get a full house! Hope to see you there.

Gail Tattersfield & Ellie Radvanovsky

Social Justice Action Alert: Affordable Housing in Illinois

Lack of affordable housing is the leading cause of homelessness. Access to decent and affordable housing is a basic human right – and one that should be fought for in order to keep families off the streets. This right is becoming a reality in Illinois, thanks to groups such as Housing Action Illinois, but there is still much to be done.

Nearly 1.66 million renters and homeowners in Illinois, or 35% of all households, are spending more than 30% of their income on housing.

Housing Action Illinois, a statewide, non-profit, membership-based organization, provides technical assistance to non-profit housing developers and housing counseling agencies.

Since 1990, this work has resulted in the development or preservation of more than 1,400 affordable units, including many in Kane County.

To learn what you can do to help and to sign up for housing action alerts, please visit:
www.housingmatters.net/alertlist.asp and/or www.housingactionil.org/

The action alerts will help you stay informed on the most critical housing issues facing our state and give you powerful tools to directly contact decision-makers quickly and effectively.

Tracey McFadden, for the Social Justice Committee

Marching for Peace

On July 4th, teens from YRUU marched with the Fox Valley Citizens for Peace in the Elgin parade. According to organizers, the group “received a gratifying amount of applause, and some cheers and thanks, along with the occasional boos and snarls. Elgin has had to get used to our presence and our message, and, in large part, they have come to agree with us.” Thanks to Grant Steskal for coordinating YRUU’s participation in this event.

Giving “Beyond Our Walls”

In June, we collected \$663 for Pottawatomie Habitat for Humanity.

Social Justice News (continued)

In the Name of Peace – The Knittin' and the Written

Twenty-one peace shawls were blessed by the congregation on Sunday, July 6. The shawls are on their way to provide “hugs” for people who are dealing with difficult circumstances throughout the world. The shawls are being distributed through the organization “Women4Women Knitting4Peace.”

The program is ongoing, and anyone is welcome to knit a shawl or to contribute yarn.

Please contact Jean Pierce or Joan McInnes through office@uusg.org or join us the last Tuesday of each month at 7pm in the Common Room. If you aren't interested in the knittin', you are welcome to join in a discussion of written selections about peace. On July 29th, the group will identify books that they would like to discuss in the coming months.

Literacy Volunteers Needed!

Literacy Volunteers Fox Valley needs volunteers to help adults read, write and speak English more effectively. They will supply training, materials, a meeting location and an adult who wants to learn. You will contribute about one hour of your time each week.

Training starts August 11.

To find out more, visit www.lvfv.org or call Peg Coker at 630-584-4428.

Recruiting Service Volunteer Participant (RSVP) Opportunities for August and September

UUSG volunteers will help at the **Northern Illinois Food Bank** on Saturday, August 2 from 8:45am until 12pm. Participants must be at least 14 years old and need to dress for warehouse work. Closed-toed shoes are required! Be sure to check out the pictures of volunteers who went to the Food Bank in May—see the Social Justice bulletin board or the Social Justice pages on UUSG's website.

Help us meet our pledge that UUSG will send 20 volunteers! Contact Katie at 630-232-2350 or office@uusg.org, or sign up at <http://content.uusg.org/rsvp-program/> or on the Social Justice bulletin board.

The **Pottawatomie Habitat for Humanity** will begin work on their tenth house on Saturdays in September. It will be located on Dean Street near 15th Street in St. Charles. Two types of volunteers are needed: builders and lunch-makers. Builders must be at least 16 years old and must wear closed-toed shoes.

Please sign up, and you will be notified when the site is ready for us to help. Contact Katie at 630-232-2350 or office@uusg.org, or sign up on the Social Justice bulletin board or at <http://content.uusg.org/rsvp-program/>.

“Can I get a copy of that?”

Did you know that we digitally record our services? If you would like to hear a service you missed, or listen again to a sermon or service that particularly intrigued or moved you, copies are usually available. All you need to do is ask.

We generally have the CDs in two forms: the entire service, from Ingathering Music through the extinguishing of the Chalice, or the edited version, with just the “message” portions (usually For All Ages, Readings, and Sermon). Call or email the office and let us know which you would like, and we can usually have a CD for you to pick up the following weekend.

Green Corner

Back to school already??!!!

The stores all say that it's time to get ready for school again.
Well, we might as well do it in the greenest way we can.

Your vocabulary words:

PCW – post-consumer waste (*Most recycled paper products contain very little post-consumer waste paper. Only recycled paper made with PCW helps fight deforestation and reduces landfill waste. Choose the highest PCW percentage you can.*)

PCF – processed chlorine-free (*Chlorine bleaching of paper releases dioxins and mercury.*)

FSC certified – The Forest Stewardship Council promotes responsible forest management and certifies that wood products come from sustainably managed sources

Staples (staples.com or 800-3STAPLE)

Marcal Aspen recycled facial tissue

-100% recycled, 30% PCW, \$1.69 per 140 tissue box or \$7.29/6pk

Pentel Handy-Lines retractable highlighters

-certified non-toxic, 50% PCW plastic, \$5.79 per 4pk

Ampad Envirotech filler paper

-100% recycled, PCF, college ruled, \$5.99/100 sheets

Ampad Evidence recycled wirebound notebooks

-1, 3 or 5-subjects, 3-hole drilled, college ruled, assorted cover colors, 50% recycled paper, 40% PCW, \$4.79 - \$5.99 each

Office Depot (officedepot.com or 800-GO-DEPOT)

Office Depot 100% recycled lunch napkins

-70% PCW, \$4.99/pack of 400

Office Depot recycled scissors

-stainless steel blades, left or right-handed use, 70% recycled content, 30% PCW, \$6.29 each

Red Apple School Supply (redapplesupply.com or 877-453-0100)

Liqui-mark's Ecology Markers

-washable, 8 colors, marker tubes are 25% recycled plastic, box is 100% PCW paper, \$3.49/set

Green Apple recycled #2 pencils

-ergonomic triangular shape, made from wood scrap, \$2.99/10

Stubby Pencil Studio (stubbypencilstudio.com or 503-412-9528)

Eco Highlighter Pencil

-neon yellow dry highlighter pencil, no ink solvents, no volatile organic compounds (VOCs), biodegradable, \$2.00

Smencils

-gourmet scented pencils made from 100% recycled newspaper, sharpen like regular wood pencils, #2 graphite in sets of 5 for \$5.95 or colored "leads" in sets of 10 for \$14.00

Soy crayons

-Soy, versus traditional petroleum-based wax, natural pigments, non-toxic, \$1/8 colors, \$3/24 colors

Greenline Paper Supply (greenlinepaper.com or 800-641-1117)

Wrap-N-Mat reusable sandwich bags

-cloth, machine washable, opens into a placemat, \$5.49

Rebinders

-3-ring binders with replaceable covers, 1", 3" or 5" sizes, \$3.95 - \$5.95

Green Corner (continued)

Green Tip of the Month

Lighter fluid is a petroleum distillate. Use a chimney starter and avoid the unfortunate taste that self-lighting briquettes impart, as well as the volatile organic compounds emitted by burning lighter fluid. You can buy chimney starters inexpensively wherever you buy grilling supplies, although they'll become scarcer as the season winds down. You can make your own fairly simply by using a punch-type can opener or church key to make holes along the bottom edge of the side of a large metal coffee can. Once the holes are punched, use a conventional can opener to remove the bottom of the can, giving you a tube with some holes around one end. The end with the holes is the bottom.

Light your coals inside the grill or in a fire ring. Crumple a full sheet of newspaper then loosely roll it up into a tube. Form the tube into a donut shape in the bottom of the can or the bottom chamber of your chimney. Spritz the paper donut with about a tablespoon of vegetable oil.

Put about 15-20 briquettes on top of the newspaper, or in the upper chamber of your chimney. From below, light the newspaper in several places. This will start the charcoal. Leave the briquettes in the chimney until the majority of the coals are ashed over. Generally, the charcoal will be ready to use in about 20 minutes. If the humidity is high, you may have to repeat the process. Use the same charcoal, just add fresh newspaper.

When the charcoal is ready, use tongs to lift the hot can let the coals spill out the bottom into your grill. If you have a commercial starter with 2 chambers, use the handle to turn it over and pour the coals out. Add any additional charcoal you'll need and leave it for another 5-10 minutes.

Charcoal grilling will never be the greenest way to cook, but eliminating the lighter fluid is a significant improvement.

"Chase the Moon" Midnight Bike Ride Benefiting the Conservation Foundation Saturday, July 26th & Sunday, July 27th, 2008

Bicycle under a star-filled sky over the usually limited-access roads at Fermilab and enjoy a healthy breakfast at the end of your nighttime journey. Chase the Moon is a ride, not a race, and the length of the route is determined by the will of your legs. Ride the full 25-mile route or shorten it as you wish.

Helmets and headlights or flashlights are required during the ride. Those under 18 must be accompanied by an adult. Children riding their own bicycles need to be registered.

Check-in is at Marmion Academy on Butterfield Rd in Aurora, 1 mile west of Kirk Rd (Farnsworth Ave.) beginning at 10pm on Saturday, July 26th.

Pre-ride festivities include prizes for Best Lit Bicycle and Best Decorated Helmet. Riders will receive a *Chase the Moon* t-shirt. The ride begins at 12:01am and ends at 3am.

The registration fee is \$35 for Conservation Foundation members. The \$45 non-member fee covers registration and a 1-year Foundation membership. Children 12 or younger can be registered by an adult for \$20. Participation is limited to the first 500 registrants. To register, visit chasethemoon.com or call 630-428-4500.



The next Pioneer deadline is Friday, August 15th at 9am. Please send all articles to BOTH office@uusg.org AND minister@uusg.org. This deadline is **FIRM!**

Memorial Garden Update

If you've walked through our beautiful garden, you may have noticed that we're having one problem – many of the limestone memorial stones are cracking, some looking like they may soon disintegrate completely. We've looked at a number of options for repairing or replacing those stones, and it seems that our best choice will be to stop using the limestone. We've found a source for a light granite for all future stones and to replace the existing stones that are the most seriously damaged.

Cost is of course a factor, and we need to order the granite stones in lots of 50 at a time (fortunately, we do not have to store them on site!). The stones are \$39 each, plus \$50 each for engraving (much like our previous arrangement). The Memorial Garden Fund doesn't have enough in it to both order the 50 and then carve the stones we currently need, but we expect to go ahead with the stone order. We'll carve and place individual stones as funds come in.

We're still asking a donation of \$100 per stone, but if you'd like to help out with a general donation of any amount, that would be greatly appreciated! Write checks to "UUSG" with "Memorial Garden Donation" in the subject line.

You're Invited...

Please join us in the UUSG Sanctuary on Thursday, August 14 at 7 p.m. for Alex Jenkins' Senior Recital.

Alex will be performing excerpted selections from Bach, Bartok, Bottesini, & Telemann. He will be joined in a double bass quartet by Timothy Shaffer of the Elgin Symphony and fellow UUSG members Tracy and John Rosenkrans.

Refreshments will follow after the performance in the Common Room. Childcare will be provided.

The Jenkins Family

Ever Heard of CUUPS?

According to their website, the Covenant of Unitarian Universalist Pagans (CUUPS) "gives Pagan-identified UUs the unique and delightful experience of being able to pursue their individual journeys of, to name just a sampling, Wicca, Shamanism, earth-centered spirituality, Witchcraft, Druidism, Asatru, Native American spirituality, Rasta, Stregheria, Toteg Tribe spirituality, and myriad other singular paths of Pagan belief and thought, without having to deny themselves the benefits and resources of church affiliation."

More info, including their monthly newsletter, can be found at <http://www.cuups.org>.

Facilities Reminders!

Carpet Spills

These will happen! Cleaning up spills immediately using *CLUB SODA* is the most effective method. Kits of club soda and clean rags are placed in the kitchen, the mini-kitchen downstairs and in the LRE Supply Room upstairs in Pioneer House. Instructions are with the kits: just rub the spot with some fizzy club soda. Cleanup is most effective if done immediately, before the spills soak into the carpet. If supplies are low, please notify the office.

Our Painted Walls

To protect our paint, please avoid sticking things on the walls. Use the tack strips that are in most rooms and hallways. **Please do not use tape on the painted walls.** Avoid leaning things against the walls.

Outlet Covers

All electrical outlets on the first floor need child protective covers for safety and to comply with fire department regulations. Extras are stored in the file cabinet (lower drawer), south wall of the Common Room.

Repairs and Maintenance Needs

When a need is noticed, please notify the office. It helps to have your name & the date the problem was noted.

Emergency Repairs

A procedure for emergency repairs is posted in the Common Room, on the door to the church office, and in PH-11. This lists whom to call when a problem requires immediate attention.

More About...CLF

The Church of the Larger Fellowship (CLF) is a cyberspace and mail UU congregation, able to provide helpful resources.

Do you know someone who is:
housebound? working on a Sunday morning?
looking for more UU resources? wanting UUism 24/7?

What resources can the CLF provide?

- * *Quest*, a monthly publication of sermons and other material
- * Lifespan Religious Education resources
- * A loan library including books, sermons, videotapes, and more
 - * Online classes
- * E-mail lists, cyber communities, and online covenant groups

Visit or contact the CLF:

www.clfuu.org

clf@clfuu.org

617-948-6170

Got Questions?

We're working on a **FAQ [Frequently Asked Questions] page** for our website.

Are there practical, easy-answer, obvious-to-the-initiated-but-not-so-obvious-to-newcomers questions you'd like us to include?

Please send your suggestions to Katie at office@uusg.org.

Circles of Life

We send our loving sympathy to Mark Adams, whose father died in late June. And we also send hopes for a speedy recovery to Eleanor Hamilton, at home recovering from a foot fracture. (Calls & cards are welcome!)

We were saddened to learn of the sudden death of Reginald King, son of the Rev. Don and Betty King, who served our Geneva congregation from 1965 until Don's retirement in 1978. No memorial service is planned and interment will be private. To Reg's daughters Chrissy and Martha and his son Reggie Jr., and to his sister Nancy Ahner, we send our loving sympathy.

Ellen MacGregor is out of the hospital and now recovering at Manorcare in Elgin. Calls and cards are welcome.

Childcare Providers Needed— Can You Help?

Make a few extra bucks while helping out the littlest UUs! We're still looking for a couple more reliable childcare providers for weekends during the services and weekday evenings!

If you'd like to join our group of rotating providers or know someone who might be a good fit in our nursery, please talk to Rev. Adam or Katie in the office. Although we're particularly looking for regular help, please also let us know if you can be called on short notice when we have a vacancy.

Save a Stamp! Pick up your 07-08 end-of-year pledge statement and/or 08-09 pledge confirmation statement in the Common Room!

Pop-Can Tabs

Thanks to everyone who has dropped off their pop-can tabs at UUSG over the last year! We are **NO LONGER** accepting them, but if you have more tabs, you can donate them to Ronald McDonald House Charities by dropping them off at any Great Clips hair salon.

Date Change! Please note that this year's Goods & Services Auction will be held on October 25 (not November 1 as listed in the latest Pioneer). Mark your calendar and think about what you'd like to donate!

Our calendar is provided on the next page, and is current as of July 23, 2008. For the most up-to-date calendar information, please visit our Website Calendar – go to www.uusg.org and follow the links to the Interactive Online Calendar. You can download a printable version if you like; the Calendar site has the instructions.

NEXT PIONEER DEADLINE

The deadline for submission to this monthly newsletter, the PIONEER, is generally 9:00 a.m. on the third Friday of the month.

The next deadline for articles is **Friday, August 15th at 9am.**

AUGUST 2008

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27 10:00 AM Worship and Summer Church School (K-5); Social Hour at 11am 1:00 PM Coming of Age Program 6:00 PM Super Summer Salad Supper	28 <i>Ministers' Sabbath</i> 7:00 PM AA Group Meeting 7:00 PM Adult RE - "Still Living in the Present Moment" 7:30 PM 4th Monday Small Group Ministry	29 3:00 PM Staff Meeting (office closed until 4pm) 7:00 PM In the Name of Peace: Book Club & Shawl Ministry	30 <i>Senior Minister's Day Off</i> 7:00 PM Buddhist Meditation and Study Group 7:30 PM GAS AA	31 <i>Associate Minister's Day Off</i>	1	2 1:00 PM Committee on Ministries Meeting
3 10:00 AM Worship and Summer Church School (K-5); Social Hour at 11am 11:30 AM UU Atheism/Humanism Study Group 12:30 PM Peacemaking Discussion Group 1:00 PM Coming of Age Program	4 <i>Ministers' Sabbath</i> 7:00 PM AA Group Meeting 7:00 PM Adult RE - "Still Living in the Present Moment" 7:30 PM Technology Committee Meeting	5 <i>Senior Minister at Hypnotist's Convention</i> 3:00 PM Staff Meeting (office closed until 4pm) 7:00 PM Sacred Harp Singing 7:30 PM Program & Administrative Councils	6 <i>Senior Minister at Hypnotist's Convention</i> 7:00 PM Buddhist Meditation and Study Group 7:30 PM GAS AA	7 <i>Associate Minister's Day Off</i> <i>Senior Minister at Hypnotist's Convention</i>	8 <i>Senior Minister at Hypnotist's Convention</i>	9 <i>Senior Minister at Hypnotist's Convention</i> 10:00 AM All-Day Sacred Harp Sing
10 <i>Senior Minister at Hypnotist's Convention</i> 10:00 AM Worship and Summer Church School (K-5); Social Hour at 11am 12:30 PM Membership Committee Meeting 1:00 PM LRE Retreat 7:00 PM 2nd Sunday (Story Tellers) Covenant Group	11 <i>Ministers' Sabbath</i> <i>Senior Minister at Hypnotist's Convention</i> 7:00 PM AA Group Meeting 7:00 PM Adult RE - "Still Living in the Present Moment" 7:00 PM Reiki Discussion Group	12 <i>Senior Minister at Hypnotist's Convention</i> 3:00 PM Staff Meeting (office closed until 4pm) 7:30 PM Board of Directors	13 7:00 PM Buddhist Meditation and Study Group 7:30 PM GAS AA	14 <i>Associate Minister's Day Off</i> 7:00 PM Alex Jenkins' Senior Double Bass Recital (set-up at 3pm) 7:00 PM Reiki Share	15 9:00 AM PIONEER deadline 7:00 PM Wilhelmi/Pollard Wedding Rehearsal	16 2:00 PM Wilhelmi/Pollard Wedding
17 10:00 AM Worship and Summer Church School (K-5); Social Hour at 11am 11:30 AM Finance Committee Meeting 1:00 PM Coming of Age Program 7:00 PM Reiki Share	18 <i>Ministers' Sabbath</i> 7:00 PM AA Group Meeting 7:00 PM Adult RE - "Still Living in the Present Moment"	19 3:00 PM Staff Meeting (office closed until 4pm) 6:30 PM Leadership Working Dinner 7:00 PM Sacred Harp Singing	20 <i>Senior Minister's Day Off</i> 6:00 PM Pioneer Mailing Prep 7:00 PM Buddhist Meditation and Study Group 7:00 PM Green Sanctuary Committee Meeting 7:00 PM LRE Committee Meeting 7:30 PM GAS AA	21 <i>Associate Minister's Day Off</i>	22	23
24 10:00 AM Worship and Summer Church School (K-5); Social Hour at 11am 1:00 PM Coming of Age Program	25 <i>Ministers' Sabbath</i> 7:00 PM AA Group Meeting 7:00 PM Adult RE - "Still Living in the Present Moment" 7:30 PM 4th Monday Small Group Ministry	26 3:00 PM Staff Meeting (office closed until 4pm) 7:00 PM In the Name of Peace: Book Club & Shawl Ministry	27 <i>Senior Minister's Day Off</i> 7:00 PM Buddhist Meditation and Study Group 7:30 PM GAS AA	28 <i>Associate Minister's Day Off</i> 9:30 AM Simple Living Circle (meeting off-site)	29	30
31 10:00 AM Worship and Summer Church School (K-5); Social Hour at 11am	1 Labor Day <i>Ministers' Sabbath</i> <i>Office Closed</i> 7:00 PM AA Group Meeting	2 3:00 PM Staff Meeting (office closed until 4pm) 7:00 PM Sacred Harp Singing 7:30 PM Program & Administrative Councils	3 <i>Associate Minister at UUA Meetings</i> <i>Senior Minister's Day Off</i> 7:00 PM Buddhist Meditation and Study Group 7:30 PM GAS AA 7:30 PM UU Paganism Study Group	4 <i>Associate Minister at UUA Meetings</i> 7:15 PM WomenSpirit Rising	5 <i>Associate Minister at UUA Meetings</i>	6 10:00 AM LRE Teacher Training 1:00 PM Committee on Ministries Meeting 5:00 PM Intergenerational Worship (childcare available for young children); Social Hour at 6 PM

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Our Covenant (written in 1842)

Being desirous of promoting practical goodness in the world, and of aiding each other in our moral and religious improvement, we have associated ourselves together — not as agreeing in opinion, not as having attained universal truth in belief or perfection in character, but as seekers after truth and goodness.

Our Mission Statement

The Unitarian Universalist Society of Geneva is a diverse, welcoming community which endeavors to make its Covenant a living reality. We provide religious education and opportunities for spiritual growth. We encourage individual and mutual responsibility as together we work to be a liberal religious voice in the community and a force for compassionate social justice.

— adopted by the congregation May 19, 1996

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