



# THE PIONEER

May—June 2010

## Paper Pulpit

## The Rev. Dr. Lindsay Bates

Several of you asked for my list of Peacemaking suggestions from the May 22-23 sermon. It does seem like a good way to end our official “Peacemaking” year – with some of the many possibilities for going forward and doing what we can to make a difference. I’ve edited it a bit – please assume that I’m assuming most of these would require at least 3 to 6 people to get started, not one or two folks trying to burn themselves out! Let me know if any of these are of interest to you:

September 21 – a Tuesday this year – is the designated **International Day of Peace**. We observed it last year in a pretty low-key way; do we want to consider doing it again, perhaps quite differently? Would you be interested in learning how to prepare, help plan and offer either an occasional or a regular **Vespers service of Prayers for Peace**? It doesn’t have to be the big deal of the International Prayers for Peace services we used to host here. 5 people sharing a time of focused intention, with music, silence, reflections, prayer, maybe standing out on the corner of our property at South Second and James with lighted candles, a silent Light of Peace witness, is plenty to get started. Maybe our friends over at Fox Valley Jewish Neighbors and their rabbi, Fred Margulies, might like to participate. Or Bhante Sila from the West Chicago Buddhist community.

Pam Rumancik, our incoming Ministerial Intern, will be offering **spiritual direction**. Would there be interest in a Saturday class on Spirituality for Unitarian Universalists – nurturing, of course, peace in the heart? Perhaps a parents’ study & support group around any of several excellent books on the general topic of raising peaceful children? How about learning how to do **effective political advocacy** work? What it takes to build a relationship with your local politicians so that they might actually **listen** to your concerns? Would you perhaps have the time to help teach one of the kids out at the Illinois Youth Center to read? **Literacy** is a huge issue for those young men. How about a **Music for Peace Concert ministry**, proceeds to help groups already working in ways that are in harmony with our Covenant and Mission Statement to nurture a more peace-filled world?

### Inside this issue:

	2
<i>Upcoming LRE Events</i>	3
<i>2010-2011 Board of Directors</i>	4
<i>Caring for Kids</i>	5
<i>Summer RSVP</i>	6
<i>Clip ‘n’ Save: Summer Services</i>	7
<i>It’s Pizza Time!</i>	8
<i>Garbage Patrol</i>	9
<i>Welcome Back, Chip Roush!</i>	10
<i>Bottled Water Taste Test Results</i>	11
<i>Area Farmers’ Markets</i>	12
<i>June Calendar</i>	13

Are there groups out there who might have **speakers’ bureaus** that you’d be interested in finding out about? I’m not asking one person to create a whole lecture series. Is there one person who might want to track down some of the leaders of Chicago’s CeaseFire organization, for example, and bring them out to Geneva for a **public presentation** on their work for neighborhood peace? Do you have a vision, a dream, a **project you’d like to share**, to find out if others might also want to be part of making it a reality? Even something as apparently simple and inconsequential and minor and unimportant as **greeting people at the door** on Sunday morning or **offering newcomers a cup of coffee or tea** at the service’s end can be a witnessing, a ministry for Peace, when that service is performed with mindfulness, with an open heart, with an eager and respectful desire to know and to be known.

continued on the next page...

## Paper Pulpit...continued

Many of you are familiar with the words of Unitarian minister and author Edward Everett Hale:

I am only one, but still I am one. I cannot do everything, but still I can do something.  
And because I cannot do everything, I will not refuse to do the something that I can do.

The circle of Peacemaking is within and around us all. It's sort of like that old theater saying – there are no small parts. In the ongoing quest for true peace, there are no small contributions.

And **you** may never know it, but that one seemingly trivial action you choose to make toward peace – that just might be the one that saves the world.

Peace! **LB**

## Religious Education Announcements and Upcoming Events Messages from Sandi Sumner, Our Acting Director of Religious Education

### Coming of Age Program

We kick off this summer's program for current 8th-grade youth with a pizza party on Friday, June 4 from 6:00 to 8:00pm. After that, the group meets from 1:00 to 3:00pm on select Sunday afternoons from June through October.

Through discussion, personal exploration, and mentoring relationships with adults, youth prepare for their changing roles and decide whether to join the Unitarian Universalist Society of Geneva as student members. Count on a couple of scavenger hunts, along with games and food to be included, too! ***Please let me know whether or not your teen will be participating in the program. If you have any questions, just call or email me. We hope to see you there!***

### More Medical Adventures...

Finally and just when I thought I was done with doctors & hospitals for a long while, I've been told my right knee is in need of a major overhaul!

I'll be out of the office beginning Monday, June 14 to have a total knee replacement. I plan to return to

the office on Sunday, July 4.

Please contact Katie if you have an urgent issue during this time.



### NEW this summer: Senior High OWL (Our Whole Lives)

We're finalizing plans for our first ever Senior High OWL program. Written for teens in grades 10-12, the goal of the program is to create a positive and comprehensive lifespan educational program that helps participants gain the knowledge, values, and skills they need to lead sexually healthy, responsible lives. The program will include a combination of overnights sessions and afternoon/evening meetings to cover the curriculum. Please see me or one of the OWL advisors if you have any questions or to let them know your interest (or your teen's interest) in attending the program.

### Mentors still needed for Coming of Age Program!

An important element of the Coming of Age Program is mentored learning. Together, mentors and youth explore spiritual matters through discussion, group conversations, journaling, and writing personal faith statements. A mentor's role is as a guide and confidant, someone with the ability to teach appropriate skills and offer an expanded view of the world. We are looking for a few people to join our group as program mentors. Experience not needed...we train! ***Please let me know if you have any questions or are interested in joining the group!***

## LREcruitment: Summer and Fall Teaching Teams Forming Now!

Plans have begun for the kick-off of our Summer church school program, *Spirit Play*, on Sunday, July 4. Together, young people in Preschool through Grade 5 and their teachers will meet outside, if weather permits, for food and fellowship. The last day of summer church school is Sunday, September 5. We will offer one or two *Spirit Play* classes depending on how many teachers sign up. We'll keep you posted!

FYI...Fall church school begins on Sunday, September 19.

***We are asking those of you who plan to teach in the summer and/or in the fall to please sign up as soon as possible!*** We understand that your summer plans often make it difficult to be at UUSG consistently before the church year begins in September, which makes it very difficult for us to start the year with full teaching teams. 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. ***Please, if you are able, sign up now!*** If you have any questions or would like more information, please let me know.

### Upcoming LRE Events

May 26, 7:00pm	Compassionate Communication Study Group
May 27, 7:00pm	Coming of Age Program Mentor Training
May 29, 6:30pm	Small Group Ministry
May 30, 1:00pm	Sandel's Justice Study Group
Jun 4, 6:00pm	Coming of Age Program Pizza Party Kick-Off
Jun 5, 6:30pm	Junior High Youth Group
Jun 6, 1:00pm	UU Atheism/Humanism Study Group
Jun 10, 7:30pm	Small Group Ministry
Jun 13, 1:00pm	Coming of Age Program
Jun 16, 7:30pm	LRE Committee Meeting
Jun 18, 7:00pm	Friday Flick "Mining Madness, Water Wars: The Great Lakes in the Balance" and "Coal Country"
Jun 19, 03:30pm	Small Group Ministry
Jun 20, 01:00pm	Sandel's Justice Study Group
June 22-27	Swedish Days (No services June 26/27 weekend)

### 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: UU Buddhism Meditation & Study Group

### Benefit Concert for the YRUU Habitat for Humanity Trip

On Sunday, June 13 at 1pm, Tom Zimmerman will be playing a concert to benefit our youth's Habitat for Humanity trip this summer.

He'll be playing an assortment of romantic pieces by Chopin, Brahms, Beethoven, and Grieg, and a variety of pieces by Spanish composers.

Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for children and will be available at the door. Additional donations are welcomed!

## Introducing...the 2010-2011 Board of Directors

Bill Pokorny, President  
 Thom Thomas, Vice President, Program Council  
 Bill Baar, Vice President, Administrative Council  
 Pat Ward, Secretary  
 George Tattersfield, Treasurer  
 Jim O'Malley, Assistant Treasurer  
 Julia Adams, Director  
 Don Brod, Director  
 Doreen Christiani, Director  
 Ben Walker, Director

The Board meets on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 7:30pm.  
 All meetings are open to anyone who wishes to attend.

## Moving Into Summer Time...

Saturday, May 29, will be our last Saturday service for the time being—it's being suspended until we have more people able and willing to attend.

On Sunday, June 6, we'll move to our summer schedule of one service at 10am on Sunday.

See you in church!

## Summer Summary

### Worship Services

Saturday, May 29: our last Saturday service until we have more people interested in attending

June 6 through September 5: summer schedule of one service on Sundays at 10am

Remember: no services on June 27—it's Swedish Days!

September 12: Intergenerational Potluck and End-of-Summer Celebration

September 19: return to our regular church year schedule—2 services on Sunday at 9:30am & 11:15am)

### Church School

During June Worship Services: we'll have childcare for children up through the first grade. Older children and youth are invited to stay for the entire service.

July – August: Spirit Play for grades K through 5.

### Staff Travels & Vacations

Lindsay: on retreat June 13-19, on study leave June 20-27, at Hypnotism Convention August 10-19

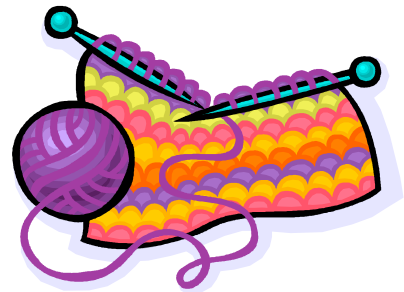
Katie: on vacation June 2-6, June 18-27, July 16-31

Sandi: on medical leave June 14-July 3

## The UUSG Art Wall

We've all been enjoying Ben Walker's knitted textiles hanging on the Common Room Art Wall—what talent!

You'll notice that some of the items are for sale and have prices on them. We don't normally allow artists to advertise that their works are for sale, but Ben has generously offered to donate all the proceeds to the church, so we've let you know the prices.



## Social Justice News

### Caring for Kids – Support for Mutual Ground Shelter in May

May's RSVP opportunity was synchronized with the Beyond Our Walls collection and the children's social justice unit in RE. The effort collected \$1208 plus items needed by children and babies at Mutual Ground in Aurora.

Through the "Caring for Kids" program, more than 130 pounds of items were collected from neighbors and contributed by church members for residents at the shelter.

In addition, the RE bake sale raised \$40 which the 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> graders determined how to spend for the children and babies.

Special thanks are due to George Hickman and Rosie Johnson for their efforts in collecting items from their neighbors.

### Michael Smith Concert

People who attended the Michael Smith concert at UUSG on May 14 were treated to an entertaining evening of original folk songs ranging from poignant love songs to hilarious ballads (who else have you known to rhyme Ferlinghetti with spaghetti)?

The crowd responded enthusiastically to Smith's repertoire, and proceeds from the concert went into a fund for renovations needed at the Illinois Youth Center.

If you missed this concert, you will have two more opportunities this year to enjoy folk music at the church. On the last weekend in August, February Sky will be performing during the service, and on December 17, the Bittersweet Christmas Band will perform a special benefit concert. Look for details in future *Pioneers*.

### June Friday Flick: Mining the Costs of Coal Mining

Many Americans are shocked to learn that nearly half of the electricity used in the United States today is produced by coal. On Friday, June 18 at 7pm, two Friday Flicks will address the ecological costs of coal mining. Beginning in the Midwest, *Mining Madness, Water Wars: The Great Lakes in the Balance* is an award-winning documentary that lays bare a controversial proposal to blast a mine beneath a blue ribbon trout stream in Michigan's Upper Peninsula. The story is told through the passionate voices of scientists, community activists, and tribal officials.

Then, *Coal Country* features the voices of working miners and activists in Appalachia. Tensions are high when mining blasts away the tops of mountains and pushes debris into valleys and streams. Residents endure health problems and dirty water in their wells, as well as dust and grime on their floors. Yet the miners are frightened that outlawing Mountain Top Removal could cost them their jobs. What does this mean for America and the rest of the world? The coal industry is spending millions to promote what it calls "clean coal." Is it achievable? At what cost?

### Coffee or Tea Possibilities

If you purchase *Equal Exchange/Fair Trade* coffee and/or tea, then please let us know what you'd like us to order.

There will be a sign-up sheet in the Common Room. We will do our best to honor requests while working within ordering/shipping guidelines.

### Lazarus House Volunteers

Many thanks to our May Lazarus House Volunteers! Gail & George Tattersfield and Bob & Martha Cox made dinner, and Maureen McKeough provided lunch and stayed overnight.

We need volunteers for the upcoming months—please consider volunteering for this important community ministry.

See the Social Justice bulletin board to sign up or for more information about how to help (it's not as hard you're thinking it is!).

## More Social Justice News

### Action Alert: Tell Chevron to Come Clean

In 2008, Chevron paid more than \$40 billion to the governments of countries around the world – most of it *entirely in secret*. Chevron drills for oil in places where millions of families struggle on less than \$1 a day. **That \$40 billion could have supported schools, health care and food programs – so where did it go?**

Chevron knows exactly how much it paid to each country. *But they won't say*. And without any information on these secret payments, poor communities can't demand their fair share – to send their children to school, create jobs, and escape poverty and hunger.

Other oil and mining companies disclose this information, and Chevron should join them – especially since more transparency will actually help Chevron in the long run by stabilizing countries. If the company agrees to change its policies, it could be a watershed moment across the oil, gas, and mining industries.

With your help, we can pressure Chevron to make a real change in its policies – and help millions of poor people in the process. Please go to the following website to send a message to Chevron.  
<https://secure.oxfamamerica.org/site/Advocacy?cmd=display&page=UserAction&id=1087>

Tracey McFadden, for the Social Justice Committee

### RSVP for Summer

Thank you to everyone who donated to the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> graders' collection for Mutual Ground Shelter in Aurora!

We have a few family events scheduled for this summer. On Saturday, June 19, we will be returning to Feed My Starving Children to pack nutritious meals for children around the world. We will meet at 11:30am at FMSC's Aurora location, 555 Exchange Court. Children in grades 3 and up are welcome with a parent. For more information, visit the organization's website: <http://www.fmsc.org>. Please sign up on the Social Justice bulletin board or through the UUSG website: <http://content.uusg.org/rsvp-program/>, or contact Lisa Gades.

Join others from UUSG who are learning sustainable gardening techniques while assisting with the Community Garden in Batavia. See what is happening on the *Batavia Community Garden* site on Facebook. At 9 am on June 12 and July 31, people of all ages are welcome to come to 311 W. Main Street in Batavia. We will also be signing up to return to the garden at various times between June 13-19 and August 1-6. To find out what tools you should bring, please contact Jean Pierce or Betsy Zinser. Produce from the garden will be contributed to the Interfaith Food Pantry.

Date	Location	Ages	Requirements	Activities
June 12, 9am	Batavia Community Garden	All ages	See article above	Gardening for Food Pantry
June 19, 11:30am-1:30pm	Feed My Starving Children	Grades 3 & up	1 adult for every 3 students	Pack meals for hungry children
July 31, 9am	Batavia Community Garden	All ages	See article above	Gardening for Food Pantry

## Clip 'n' Save: Summer Services

We're just beginning to put the schedule of Summer Services together, so watch for the June Pioneer to have a more complete listing! But here's what we have lined up so far:

- |                                    |   |
|------------------------------------|---|
| June 6                             | Annual Flower Celebration; please have everyone in your family bring a flower to add to our Treasury of Grace! We'll also be celebrating our graduating Seniors.  |
| June 13                            | the Rev. Dr. Lindsay Bates, "Savoring Summer"   |
| June 20                            | Fathers' Day service led by Thom Thomas   |
| June 27                            | SWEDISH DAYS, so no service at church. But please do come and help out (or buy some pizza from) our Pizza Booth at the corner of Third & James!   |
| July 4                             | Our founding minister, Augustus Conant, got himself into a lot of trouble one 4th of July, when his speech to the community veered from the "feel good about freedom" message everyone expected to a condemnation of slavery. While our young people picnic on the church lawn, "Augustus" will bring that 4th of July speech to UUSG.  |
| July 11, 18, & 25 and August 1 & 8 | Dr. Bates will be in the pulpit   |
| August 15 & 22                     | Pamela Rumancik, our not-quite-yet Ministerial Intern from Meadville/Lombard, will be covering our pulpit while Dr. Bates is in New England   |
| August 28                          | a special concert by February Sky (Phil Cooper & Susan Urban); watch for more details   |
| August 29                          | Phil and Susan have led worship services for many UU congregations, and are bringing "Reverence & Glory: The Songs of Dave Carter" to UUSG. Susan writes: "Dave Carter (1952-2002) was an American folk singer and songwriter who self-described his style as 'post-modern mythic American folk music.' Many of his songs address spiritual issues and speak of things that UUs like to think and talk about. This service will consist of some of our favorite Dave Carter songs interspersed with reflections on why we like them." |
| September 5                        | Dr. Bates will have the pulpit for the Sunday before Labor Day  |
| September 12                       | This is the weekend of Geneva's Festival of the Vine, a weekend when downtown parking is abysmal and our attendance has matched it! So we're moving Homecoming Weekend and instead will have an informal potluck brunch between 9:30 and noon, but we really hope you'll all have signed up for the All-Church Picnic instead!  |
| September 19                       | Homecoming Sunday! We're back to 9:30 and 11:15 services, and our children, who'll be with us as usual for the first part of the services, will go off together for their own Homecoming Celebrations with their church school classes.   |



## Swedish Days Pizza Booth

Geneva's Swedish Days are Tuesday through Sunday, **June 22-27**. Our UUSG Pizza Booth will be in full swing all six days, **but only with your help**.

Sign up for a two-hour slot to serve up pizza & pop, or consider joining the elite rank of Day Managers! This is one of our largest fundraisers of the year, and we need everyone's help to make it a success.

Sign up online **TODAY** at <http://content.uusg.org/swedish-days-pizza-booth/>.

### Please Join Us on Sunday, June 6, 2010 at 2pm for a Service of Remembrance & Dedication of Memorial Stones

for

John Bates  
Judy Bernard  
Jerry & Shirley Dullea  
Susan Knerr  
Larry Kotula  
Ken Marks  
Jodie Rees  
Thomas P. Riordan  
John A. & Kay C. Rosenkrans  
Jeanne Ann Rossell Dall  
Virginia Nolan Woods

Weather permitting, interment of ashes will also be included.

Reception with light refreshments to follow.

### New Members

We welcome to our community  
these new members:

Tracy Paszkiet  
Gloria Simo Kotula  
Debra Johnson  
Jude Hoecker  
and  
Michelle Hoecker.

### Circles of Life

Congratulations to Jinny Gilgan, who recently got engaged!

We also send our congrats to Jenny Stewart, who just last week landed a new job she'd been hoping for.

We also celebrate with the Wheeler Family on their new home in Carpentersville. We'll miss them living close by, but we're glad they'll still be part of our church community.

We send our sympathy to those who lost their beloved animal companions this month: Judith Calleja, whose horse Irish died suddenly; Sherri Casterline, whose dog Molly passed away after 14 years of loyal companionship; and Pat Ward, whose calico cat Lexi recently died.

Sasha the MalamUute is doing very well. As you might have heard, she didn't have her hip surgery as expected, but was given a cortisone shot instead. The shot was so the vet could determine exactly where the problem is (and it is most definitely the hip), but it's had the added side effect of turning Sasha into a puppy again. She's already eaten the mail once and has recently turned to terrorizing our house plants! We'll be rescheduling Sasha's surgery in the future (when the cortisone wears off or they can't give her any more shots), but in the meantime we're enjoying The Bouncy Beastie!

Just when we thought our Acting DRE, Sandi Sumner, was done with doctors and hospitals for a long while, she's learned that her right knee needs to be replaced. She'll be out of the office beginning Monday, June 14, returning on Sunday, July 4. Please contact Katie if you have an urgent issue during this time.

## Volunteer Headquarters

### Garbage Patrol

The Wheeler Family has done an amazing job as our Garbage Patrol, but since they won't be living within walking distance anymore, it's time for someone else to take over this duty!

This is an easy way for an individual, couple, or family to help out. We're looking for helpers to take the garbage can & recycling bins to the curb on Wednesday afternoon or evening and/or to take the garbage can & recycling bins back behind the church on Thursday afternoon or evening. If you can help with one or both tasks, talk to Katie.

### Volunteer Appreciation

We send our heartfelt appreciation to:

**Helen Hawkins' Drivers**, Gail Tattersfield, Lou Pierce, Norlyn Dimmitt, Jim O'Malley, Mary Jonke, Page Poris, Jenny Montgomery, Joan McInnes, Jenny Stewart, Gloria & Stu Mansfield, Anne Veague, Betty Bristol, and Kathy Meier.

**Anyone who went to Nosh Restaurant on May 16**, for taking the time to support a local business and UUSG at the same time!

### Greeting in May & June

If you're interested in greeting in May or June, you can sign up in the Common Room or by going to <http://content.uusg.org/greeters-and-social-hour-hosts/>.

### Fertilizing Our Yard

We're still looking for a few volunteers to help out with yardwork this spring and summer by spreading organic fertilizer, so if you can help, talk to Katie.

### Clipping Coupons!

We're all looking for ways to save money, and clipping coupons is an old stand-by. If you'd like to facilitate a UUSG coupon exchange, talk to Katie.

### From the Hospitality & Fellowship Folks

We're pleased to announce that coffee at social hour will return in June! If you'd like to get a head start on July, sign up online at <http://content.uusg.org/greeters-and-social-hour-hosts/>.

### Shopping for UUSG

If you shop at Dominick's, you could earn money for UUSG! Next time you're there, ask to have your Dominick's card attached to the UUSG scrip account and UUSG will get a 1-4% rebate on all your purchases. Or register your Dominick's card today by grabbing your card and going to [www.escrip.com](http://www.escrip.com). (The Dominick's at Randall and Route 38 is closed, but check to see if you live near another store.)

### Spring Spruce-Up & Smorgasbord

Many thanks to everyone who came out on a hot day and worked hard and/or donated plants to make our grounds beautiful: Michelle Dey, Carolyn Lach, Diane Peters, Sally Jones, Tracy Paszkiet, David Tomell, George Tattersfield, Wendy Mosier, Jane Willard, Linda, Trish Beckjord, Karen Moore, and Karin Kemp.

The group planted zinnias and red vinca in the two memorial garden beds, planted marigolds near the sign, planted ferns, cat mint, and cone-flower near Pioneer House. On the west property, they weeded and planted hostas, daylilies, and lily of the valley. They watered and mulched all those plants as well!

Thanks also to Peg Biagioni, who donated all the annuals from Ball Seed: two flats of zinnias, and one flat of marigolds and one of vinca.

Extra special thanks to Karin Kemp, Karen Moore, and Trish Beckjord for coordinating the event and making sure it all went according to plan—your dedication is much appreciated!

We also send our appreciation to the Hospitality & Fellowship Committee for providing refreshments and lunch for our hard workers!

There's still a bit of mulch left over, so we will likely be scheduling another workday in early June—talk to Katie if you'd like to help out.

## Choir Appreciation

A special thanks to our Easter choir for sharing their time and talent and congratulations on a fine season! Thank you to Michael McElvain for his expert accompaniment. We look forward to singing during the 2010-2011 church year and hope you will consider joining us. If you are interested, please contact director Ruth Cavanaugh at [choir@uusg.org](mailto:choir@uusg.org).

Many thanks to our choir members for sharing their voices with us: Melanie Abercrombie, Jane Willard, Jean Pierce, Rhonda Robinson, Trish Beckjord, Beth Towell, Lynn Fisher McCanne, Ann Drover, Melissa Auer, Rob Plunkett, Emily Smith, Steve Clark, Julia Adams, Bruce Fackler, Mark Adams, Tom Haslett, Al Drover, & Mark Alleman.

## June 6 Flower Service

Our first Summer Service will be our annual Flower Celebration. This is a Unitarian tradition, created by the Revs. Norbert and Maja Capek in Prague in 1923.

Please have everyone in your family bring a flower - any kind of flower or flowering branch is fine, so long as you think it's beautiful!

(If flowers are likely to trigger allergies for you, please be aware that the church will be full of them – and any extras will be used to decorate the Memorial Garden for the special Memorial Stone service in the afternoon.)

## Exchanging Books & Ideas

Did you know that UUSG has a book exchange? Located in the Conant Room by the James Street door, the exchange is open to anyone--take or leave a book.

## Got Coins?

Bring your loose change to church before the end of May and put it in the "Change for a Change" tree in the Common Room. All of the money will be going to Operation Support Our Troops Illinois.

## Pioneer Deadline

Please note that the June Pioneer deadline is a week early due to Swedish Days!

Send all submissions to [office@uusg.org](mailto:office@uusg.org) by 9am on Friday, June 11.

## UUSG Online

Check out the computer in the Common Room on Sundays! You can look at websites for UUSG, the Unitarian Universalist Association, the Central Midwest District, the UU Service Committee, and others.

## A Note from Lindsay

To all our UUSG friends, our deepest thanks! Scot and I had a wonderful 22nd wedding anniversary celebration in Chicago, stayed 2 nights in the Trump Tower (there are at \*least\* 7 or 8 sermons in that....), enjoyed the Art Institute and fine dining and Millennium Park, as well as a nostalgic trip to our favorite pizza-&-burgers joint from grad school days. For the gift cards, the time off, and most of all, the caring behind the gift, thank you!

## Parking Spaces

Please remember on Sundays to keep the parking apron and the 4 parking spots directly in front of the Sanctuary open for visitors and anyone who needs to park close to be able to attend church. New signs are up now!

## Welcome Back, Chip!

We welcome our former Ministerial Intern, Chip Roush, and his wife, Becky, back to UUSG for one weekend only!

Chip will be in the pulpit for all 3 services on May 29 & 30.

Everyone is invited to spend time with Chip & Becky at a Welcome Back Potluck on Saturday, May 29 at 6pm.

Sign up by getting in touch with Katie at 630-232-2350 or [office@uusg.org](mailto:office@uusg.org).






(Note: this potluck is not sponsored by the Hospitality & Fellowship Committee, so we need everyone to lend a hand.)

## Green Corner

*When we heal the earth, we heal ourselves. ~ David Orr*

### Bottled Water Taste Test Results

For those who have been anxiously waiting, here are the promised compiled results of the UUSG water tasting last month...

	Odor	Flavor	Aftertaste	Total
 <b>City of Geneva</b> (Water A)	72%	72%	68%	70%
 <b>Evian</b> (Water B)	72%	63%	60%	65%
 <b>City of St Charles</b> (Water C)	65%	53%	50%	56%
 <b>City of Batavia</b> (Water D)	71%	65%	62%	66%
 <b>Ice Mountain</b> (Water E)	72%	68%	65%	69%

The figures given are how many points out of the maximum possible number of points a given water earned in a given category, rounded to the nearest whole number.

Considering that the difference between first and fourth place is only 5 percentage points, you might want to consider the following:

- \* Tap water has the lowest water footprint and the lowest carbon footprint of any beverage
- \* Municipal water is not permitted to contain e. Coli or fecal coliform bacteria. FDA rules for bottled water include no such prohibitions
- \* Tap water - about \$0.002 per gallon
  - Bottled water - \$0.89 to \$8.26 per gallon
- Those in the city of St Charles (our last place finisher, and the only one to actually make people make faces during our test) may want to consider that basic home water filtration (like a Brita or Pur filter) is more convenient, produces higher quality water, and costs a fraction of what bottled water costs. "10 times the quality, 1/10th the cost and no pollution!"

### Local Green Event

Elmhurst Green Fest, Wilder Park  
<http://www.elmhurstgreenfest.org>

Saturday, July 31st, 10am-3pm

Whether you're ready to start with one small change in your home or business, or if you've been living green and want to take your efforts to the next level, you'll find something of interest here.

There'll be speakers, discussions, eco-friendly products, hands-on activities, demonstrations for kids and adults, a recycling boutique, hybrid vehicles, door prizes, and free gifts.

## More Green Corner

### Area Farmers' Markets

- **Community Winter Market:** offers fresh, organic, or minimally processed farmers' bounty November through May. Located at 11 North Fifth Street in Geneva on Saturdays 9:00 am - 1:00 PM. Call 630/377-0373 for specifics.
- **Geneva Green Market:** open on Thursdays June through October at 75 North River Lane, Geneva IL. Call 630/208-9321 or visit the website <http://www.genevagreengreenmarket.org> for times and dates.
- **Sunday French Market:** open from 8:00 - 2:00 in the Geneva Metra Station parking lot. Enjoy bakery, locally-grown produce and more through the end of October. Try the fresh corn-on-the-cob that tastes best uncooked!
- **Other Area Farmers' Markets info:** see listings in future Pioneers and/or the soon-to-be-updated "Buy Local" page on the UUSG website (<http://content.uusg.org/green-sanctuary-committee-3/>).

Food Safety Alerts: log on to [www.FoodSafety.gov](http://www.FoodSafety.gov)

### No Impact Project

Want to see what a difference no-impact living can have on your quality of life?

Go to <http://noimpactproject.org/experiment/>.

### What's Happening During Swedish Days?

The office will be closed during the week of Swedish Days: Sunday, June 20 through Sunday, June 27. Remember that there will be no worship services on Sunday, June 27.

Meetings during that week have been canceled, rescheduled, or moved off-site. Check with the group leader or the online calendar to find out if, where, and when your group is meeting.

And lastly, don't forget to sign up for our biggest fundraiser of the year: the Swedish Days Pizza Booth! Turn to page 8 for more info or go to <http://content.uusg.org/swedish-days-pizza-booth/>.

### Sacred Harp Singing Event

Add your voice to the song! Join singers from around the Midwest in singing hymns, anthems, and spiritual songs from The Sacred Harp. At 10am on Saturday, August 7<sup>th</sup>, the fourth annual Geneva All-day Sacred Harp Sing will take place in the sanctuary of UUSG. Beginners and newcomers are welcome; no musical experience is required.

Sacred Harp is an American tradition that brings communities together for four-part, a capella hymn singing. The style of singing is called "shape note singing" because the musical notation uses note heads in four distinct shapes to aid in sight-reading. It is also called Sacred Harp singing because the book most shape note singers use today is The Sacred Harp.

In addition to singing, we will share a potluck lunch at noon. For additional information, contact Ryan Wheeler.

Our calendar is provided on the next page, and is current as of May 26, 2010. For the most up-to-date calendar information, please visit our Website Calendar – go to [www.uusg.org](http://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, June 11, at 9:00 a.m.**

# JUNE 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>30</b> <b>9:30 AM</b> & 11:15 AM Worship & Church School; Social Hours at 10:30 AM & 12:15 PM <b>11:15 AM</b> Big Ideas Covenant Group <b>1:00 PM</b> Sandel's Justice Study Group	<b>31</b> <b>Memorial Day</b> <i>Office Closed</i> <b>7:00 PM</b> AA Group Meeting	<b>1</b> <b>1:00 PM</b> Staff Meeting <b>7:00 PM</b> Sacred Harp Singing <b>7:30 PM</b> Program & Administrative Councils	<b>2</b> <i>Congregational Administrator on Vacation</i> <i>Senior Minister's Day Off</i> <b>12:00 PM</b> "Healthy Habits" Group <b>7:00 PM</b> UU Buddhism Meditation and Study Group <b>7:30 PM</b> GAS AA	<b>3</b> <i>Congregational Administrator on Vacation</i> <i>Senior Minister's Sabbath</i> <b>7:00 PM</b> Youth Outlook (youth can begin arriving at 6:30pm)	<b>4</b> <b>6:00 PM</b> Coming of Age Program Pizza Party Kick-off	<b>5</b> <b>10:00 AM</b> Private Bar Mitzvah <b>6:30 PM</b> Junior High Youth Group
<b>6</b> <i>Congregational Administrator on Vacation</i> <b>10:00 AM</b> Intergenerational Worship; Social Hour at 11am <b>11:00 AM</b> Finance Committee Meeting <b>1:00 PM</b> UU Atheism/Humanism Study Group <b>2:00 PM</b> Dedication of Memorial Garden Stones	<b>7</b> <b>7:00 PM</b> AA Group Meeting <b>7:00 PM</b> Adult RE - "Still Living in the Present Moment" <b>7:30 PM</b> Technology Committee Meeting	<b>8</b> <b>1:00 PM</b> Staff Meeting <b>7:30 PM</b> Board of Directors	<b>9</b> <i>Senior Minister's Day Off</i> <b>7:00 PM</b> Facilities Committee Meeting <b>7:00 PM</b> UU Buddhism Meditation and Study Group <b>7:30 PM</b> GAS AA	<b>10</b> <i>Senior Minister's Sabbath</i> <b>7:00 PM</b> Youth Outlook (youth can begin arriving at 6:30pm) <b>7:30 PM</b> Small Group Ministry	<b>11</b> <b>9:00 AM</b> PIONEER deadline	<b>12</b> <b>9:00 AM</b> Community Garden (off-site) <b>1:00 PM</b> Committee on Ministries Meeting
<b>13</b> <b>10:00 AM</b> Family-Friendly Worship Service; Social Hour at 11am <b>11:00 AM</b> Commit to Knit <b>11:30 AM</b> Membership Committee Meeting <b>11:30 AM</b> Social Justice Committee Meeting <b>1:00 PM</b> Coming of Age Program <b>1:00 PM</b> Tom Zimmerman Concert: A Benefit Concert for the YRUU Habitat for Humanity Trip <b>2:00 PM</b> Lay Ministers' Meeting <b>7:00 PM</b> 2nd Sunday (Story Tellers) Covenant Group	<b>14</b> <i>Acting DRE on Medical Leave</i> <i>Senior Minister on Retreat</i> <b>1:30 PM</b> Women's Guild <b>7:00 PM</b> AA Group Meeting <b>7:00 PM</b> Adult RE - "Still Living in the Present Moment" <b>7:00 PM</b> Reiki Discussion Group	<b>15</b> <i>Acting DRE on Medical Leave</i> <i>Senior Minister on Retreat</i> <b>1:00 PM</b> Staff Meeting <b>7:00 PM</b> Reiki Share <b>7:00 PM</b> Sacred Harp Singing	<b>16</b> <i>Acting DRE on Medical Leave</i> <i>Senior Minister on Retreat</i> <b>6:00 PM</b> Pioneer Mailing Prep <b>7:00 PM</b> Green Sanctuary Committee Meeting <b>7:00 PM</b> UU Buddhism Meditation and Study Group <b>7:30 PM</b> GAS AA <b>7:30 PM</b> LRE Committee Meeting	<b>17</b> <i>Acting DRE on Medical Leave</i> <i>Senior Minister on Retreat</i> <b>9:15 AM</b> Simple Living Circle <b>7:00 PM</b> Green Sanctuary Committee Meeting <b>7:00 PM</b> Youth Outlook (youth can begin arriving at 6:30pm)	<b>18</b> <i>Acting DRE on Medical Leave</i> <i>Senior Minister on Retreat</i> <b>7:00 PM</b> Friday Flicks: "Mining Madness, Water Wars: The Great Lakes in the Balance" and "Coal Country"	<b>19</b> <i>Acting DRE on Medical Leave</i> <i>Senior Minister on Retreat</i> <b>3:30 PM</b> Small Group Ministry
<b>20</b> <i>Acting DRE on Medical Leave</i> <i>Congregational Administrator On Vacation</i> <b>Fathers' Day</b> <i>Senior Minister on Study Leave</i> <b>9:00 AM</b> Hospitality & Fellowship Committee Meeting <b>10:00 AM</b> Family-Friendly Worship Service; Social Hour at 11am <b>1:00 PM</b> Sandel's Justice Study Group <b>7:00 PM</b> Reiki Share	<b>21</b> <i>Acting DRE on Medical Leave</i> <i>Congregational Administrator On Vacation</i> <i>Senior Minister on Study Leave</i> <b>7:00 PM</b> AA Group Meeting <b>7:00 PM</b> Adult RE - "Still Living in the Present Moment"	<b>22</b> <i>Acting DRE on Medical Leave</i> <i>Congregational Administrator On Vacation</i> <i>Senior Minister on Study Leave</i> <b>Swedish Days</b>	<b>23</b> <i>Acting DRE on Medical Leave</i> <i>Congregational Administrator On Vacation</i> <i>Senior Minister on Study Leave</i> <b>Swedish Days</b> <b>7:30 PM</b> GAS AA	<b>24</b> <i>Acting DRE on Medical Leave</i> <i>Congregational Administrator On Vacation</i> <i>Senior Minister on Study Leave</i> <b>Swedish Days</b>	<b>25</b> <i>Acting DRE on Medical Leave</i> <i>Congregational Administrator On Vacation</i> <i>Senior Minister on Study Leave</i> <b>Swedish Days</b>	<b>26</b> <i>Acting DRE on Medical Leave</i> <b>No Services This Weekend</b> <i>Senior Minister on Study Leave</i> <b>Swedish Days</b>
<b>27</b> <i>Acting DRE on Medical Leave</i> <b>No Services This Weekend</b> <i>Senior Minister on Study Leave</i> <b>Swedish Days</b>	<b>28</b> <i>Acting DRE on Medical Leave</i> <b>7:00 PM</b> AA Group Meeting <b>7:00 PM</b> Adult RE - "Still Living in the Present Moment"	<b>29</b> <i>Acting DRE on Medical Leave</i> <b>1:00 PM</b> Staff Meeting	<b>30</b> <i>Acting DRE on Medical Leave</i> <i>Senior Minister's Day Off</i> <b>7:00 PM</b> UU Buddhism Meditation and Study Group <b>7:30 PM</b> GAS AA	<b>1</b> <i>Acting DRE on Medical Leave</i> <i>Senior Minister's Sabbath</i> <b>7:00 PM</b> Youth Outlook (youth can begin arriving at 6:30pm)	<b>2</b> <i>Acting DRE on Medical Leave</i>	<b>3</b> <i>Acting DRE on Medical Leave</i> <b>1:00 PM</b> Committee on Ministries Meeting

The Unitarian Universalist Society of Geneva  
110 South Second Street  
P.O. Box 107  
Geneva, IL 60134-0107

Church Office: 630-232-2350  
Church Email: [office@uusg.org](mailto:office@uusg.org)  
Church Website: [www.uusg.org](http://www.uusg.org)

### **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.*

Rev. Dr. Lindsay Bates  
*Senior Minister*  
[minister@uusg.org](mailto:minister@uusg.org)

Sandi Sumner  
*Acting Director of Religious Education*  
[LRE@uusg.org](mailto:LRE@uusg.org)

Katie Phillips  
*Congregational Administrator*  
[office@uusg.org](mailto:office@uusg.org)

Michael McElvain  
*Music Director*  
[music@uusg.org](mailto:music@uusg.org)

### **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

The next Pioneer deadline is June 11, 2010 at 9am. Please send all articles to BOTH [office@uusg.org](mailto:office@uusg.org) AND [minister@uusg.org](mailto:minister@uusg.org).

The Unitarian Universalist Society of Geneva  
P.O. Box 107  
Geneva, IL 60134-0107