



A Newsletter of

The Unitarian Universalist Society of Geneva

# THE PIONEER

September—October 2010

## Paper Pulpit

The Rev. Dr. Lindsay Bates, Senior Minister

And Happy New Year again! It feels like a good start – the picnic on Sept. 12 was a **far** better way to end our separate summers than trying to find parking in downtown Geneva for the second worship service! The Hospitality Ministry folks are willing to take on an annual fall Homecoming Picnic on the weekend of Geneva’s Festival of the Vine, so plan for that now. Mark your 2011 calendars (and I’m betting most of you already have them) for Sunday, September 11, Wheeler Park at noon. We may start with a quiet time on the tenth anniversary of the attacks on New York and Washington, but we will, as our Buddhist friends would remind us, take refuge in the community. It will be good to be together on that day.

In the meantime, there’s a full new church year ~ and as always, a slightly different community coming together. Quite a few new folks have found us, other members and friends have moved away or will be kept away by ill health. We’ll miss Joanne Erickson, whose Geneva memorial service is planned for October 16; we’re holding Al Bull and Ruth Fitzpatrick in our thoughts and hearts, and we’ll trust that both Joan McInnes and Gloria Simo [Kotula] will remember to come back and visit now and again. The weddings of four of “our kids” are on the calendar for this year (I’ve already had the honor and the fun of co-officiating at Stephanie Holmes’s July wedding; Katie Friedman, Elisabeth Garland, and Evan Pierce are also celebrating finding their best friends and best beloveds – Dan, Charles, and Carrie – and will be married in coming months). To celebrate the weddings of young adults I’ve had the privilege and joy of watching grow up since infancy is one of the greatest gifts of a long ministry, and I’ve known Katie and Evan all of their lives. I plan to carry tissues at those two weddings – not for the bride (or groom, or parents thereof), but for me!

We’re a teaching church again – many of you have already met Pam Rumancik, not just in print now but also in person. She was fully informed by some of our previous interns about what she was getting into – brave soul! She brings many gifts to UUSG, but I’m especially excited about her background & education in spiritual direction. Many of you have said you’d be interested in exploring that. This year, you’ll have that opportunity (see page 8 for more information).

And a final note – pun unintentional – about our music this year. Tracy Rosenkrans volunteered to help with coordinating musicians, working with me and with part-time music director Michael McElvain and with choir director Ruth Cavanaugh and with all the many outstanding musicians who’ve come forward to do the “ordinary” music when Michael is unavailable and/or special music for Preludes, Postludes, Interludes, or even entire services. We’ve long been blessed with a strong music ministry – this year will probably be the best ever, and only a beginning for a new and far better way of enriching and sharing the music of this congregation.

We are off to a good, happy start – may the year surpass our highest hopes! See you in church!

Peace! **LB**

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# Religious Education Announcements

We begin our fall church school session and welcome back all UUSG members and friends with much enthusiasm! Special thanks go to all of our volunteers who so graciously signed up as a teacher, advisor, or substitute teacher to educate and inspire our children and youth.

The theme of our program this year is "UU Identity." Using age-appropriate curricula specially chosen to fit our theme, young people will be studying the stories, values, history, beliefs, and promises that are part of Unitarian Universalism and being a Unitarian Universalist in this congregation.

If you would like to review a copy of your child's curriculum (titles are shown below), please see Sandi Sumner, Acting Director of Religious Education.

Grades	September to April	April to May	June to September
Pre-K and Kindergarten	Chalice Children/Spirit Play		Pre-K: Nursery Care
Primary (Gr. 1 & 2)	UU Super Heroes	Special Project	PreK-Grade 5: Spirit Play
Elementary (Gr. 3 & 4)	Timeless Themes	Special Project	
Intermediate (Gr. 5 & 6)	The Questing Year	Special Project	
Junior High (Gr. 7 & 8)	Compass Points OWL (Overnights January through April)		Gr. 8: Coming of Age on Sunday Afternoons
YRUU (Gr. 9-12)	Neighboring Faiths Habitat for Humanity		

## Religious Education—it's not just for kids!

Explore one (or more!) of our many adult religious education opportunities! Discussion groups and study groups of various sorts and topics meet throughout the month. In addition to our four theological study groups, we have ongoing classes looking at peacemaking, personal spiritual growth, women's spirituality, and small group discussion. There are also short-term classes taught by members of UUSG and the clergy.

Please **join us on the third Saturday of each month for "Saturday Supper & Seminar Series," led by the Rev. Dr. Lindsay Bates.** Topic details are forthcoming.

We'll continue our **"Munch & Learn Lecture Series" in October.** Join us as a lecturer or attendee at our program of factual talks on a variety of topics. The only restriction of the topics' scope is that the content of the talk must be factual and not opinion (no ideology, religion, politics, or anything that provokes rancorous debate!).

The **"Compassionate Communication Study Group," led by Thom Thomas, meets at 7pm on the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month.**

You can discover what classes are occurring by watching the Adult RE Sign-Up area on the LRE Bulletin Board, checking out the UUSG Calendar, or reading the LRE pages in the monthly Pioneer newsletter.

### Upcoming LRE Events

- Sept 22, 7:00pm      Compassionate Communication Study Group
- Sept 26, 1:00pm      Sandel's Justice Study Group
- Oct 3, 1:00pm          Coming of Age Program
- Oct 3, 1:00pm          UU Atheism/Humanism Study Group
- Oct 6, 7:00pm          Compassionate Communication Study Group
- Oct 9, 6:30pm          Junior High Youth Group
- Oct 14, 7:30pm          Small Group Ministry
- Oct 15, 7:00pm          Friday Flick: "Made in L.A."
- Oct 16, 3:30pm          Small Group Ministry
- Oct 16, 6:00pm          Saturday Supper & Seminar Series
- Oct 16, 6:30pm          Games Night!
- Oct 17, 1:00pm          Coming of Age Program
- Oct 17, 1:00pm          Sandel's Justice Study Group
- Oct 20, 7:00pm          Compassionate Communication Study Group
- Oct 20, 7:30pm          LRE Committee Meeting

#### 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

### Wanted: Junior High Youth Group Advisors

**Looking for a way to get involved with our youth outside the classroom?** This might be it! Our Junior High Youth Group (for youth in Grades 6-8) meets on the second Saturday of each month (October through May), usually from 6:30pm to 9:00pm.

Activities are planned collectively and may include movies, games, music, food, and a field trip or two (think corn maze, snow tubing, etc.). As an advisor, you will chaperone activities, communicate with participants and their parents, and work with Sandi Sumner to maintain/obtain necessary forms. If this sounds like something you're interested in, please let Sandi know!

### Music is in the Air!

The Religious Education Music Program, which provides music for children in PreK through Grade 6, continues this year!

In our Common Room, children work with Sandy Anderson-Cordogan (at the 9:30am service) and Diane Handler (at the 11:15am service) for 5-10 minutes after leaving worship to learn simple pieces of Unitarian Universalist music. Some of the music taught can be found in "May This Light Shine," a songbook for children and youth, created by the Unitarian Universalist Musicians Network. The songbooks are shelved in our library on top of the children's bookcase.

Children will share their music with the congregation twice during the year, on November 7, 2010 and March 6, 2011.

### YRUU needs YOU!

Our high school group, YRUU (Young Religious Unitarian Universalists), is in need of an enthusiastic male member of our community to join our team of advisors!

YRUU meets on Sunday mornings at the 11:15am worship service. You and the current YRUU advisors will create a teaching schedule that ensures at least two advisors are present during each meeting, inside and outside of UUSG.

Responsibilities include creating a welcoming and supportive environment for our teens, presenting curricula in a clear and organized manner, organizing and coordinating off-site events (including youth cons, retreats, and field trips), encouraging youth to explore and assume leadership roles at UUSG and in the community, and communicating effectively with parents.

Best of all, you'll have lots of fun and learn so much, too!

The Atheist/Humanist group will resume meeting the first Sunday in October at 1pm.

**Memorial Service for Joanne Erickson**

On Saturday, October 16 at 11am, we will gather in our Sanctuary to celebrate the life and legacy of Joanne Erickson.

If you have special memories of Joanne you'd like to share, please talk to Rev. Lindsay.

A reception will follow the service—if you'd like to help with set-up, clean-up, or by providing finger foods, please contact the Hospitality & Fellowship Committee at [hospitality@uusg.org](mailto:hospitality@uusg.org).

**UUSG Homecoming Picnic**

A big thanks to everyone who assisted with the church picnic last Sunday. We had the most incredible weather, a delectable cuisine for a fine feast, music, family, fellowship, fun, and minimal bees. Join us next year on September 11, 2011 once again for our Homecoming Picnic!

**Justice Study Group**

If you have not been coming to the Justice discussion group every third and fourth Sunday of the month at 1pm, it is not too late. We welcome new people.

You will be treated to an outstanding 30-minute video lecture by Michael Sandel, originator of the famous Justice course at Harvard. He, and we, will discuss interesting and challenging moral questions which are at the core of important social issues. Please join us.

**UUSG on Facebook**

Ben Walker has been working with our Communications & Technology Committees to get a real UUSG page up on Facebook—it's now live!

Lindsay will keep the one she already has and will double-post sermon texts and other messages of interest to UUSG. Those who would prefer not to deal with notifications from friends of friends of Lindsay's can drop her page (she promises that her feelings won't be hurt) and sign on with the church's page instead.

**Our New Pew Cushions Are Here!**



We've been talking about them and now they're here!

The cushions arrived a little sooner than we expected, so we're still collecting donations for our "Cover Our Bottom Line" campaign. If you'd like to help out, put your cash or check (with "Pew Cushions" in the memo line) in the collection basket, in the special box in the Common Room, or in the mail (PO Box 107, Geneva, IL, 60134).

Many thanks to everyone who has contributed already! We've collected \$3153 of the \$4000 needed.

**Check out the UUSG Podcast at**

<http://itunes.apple.com/podcast/unitarian-universalist-society/id387392633>

**More Medical Adventures?!**

With a huge sigh, Sandi Sumner reports that she will be away on a short medical adventure from Thursday, 9/30 through Monday, 10/4.

Her new knee needs a slight adjustment, but her doctor has assured her all is (or will be) well.

She will not be checking email or voicemail while she's gone, but you may contact Katie Phillips, Congregational Administrator, or Jim Roberts, LRE Committee Chair, if you have an urgent issue.

## Social Justice News

### Brother (and Sister), Can You Spare a Dinner?

The Social Justice Committee is looking for volunteers to help prepare lunches or dinners on the first Saturdays of upcoming months for Lazarus House.

#### Frequently Asked Questions:

Q: How many meals are needed?

A: Approximately 40.

Q: Do I need to purchase all of the supplies?

A: No – Ring the bell at Lazarus House (214 Walnut Street, St. Charles) and look through their freezers and shelves. Also, ask them for food containers.

Q: Is it possible to get reimbursed for my expenses?

A: Yes – simply submit your receipt to the Social Justice Committee.

Q: Where can I find recipes to feed that many people?

A: Click on <http://content.uusg.org/lazarus-house/>.

If you'd like to help out, please contact Katie in the office at 630-232-2350 or [office@uusg.org](mailto:office@uusg.org).

### Employees' Rights is Topic of October 15 Friday Flick

People who work hard and play by the rules still see their rights denied by some powerful corporations. Employees' rights will be the focus of a documentary film, *Made in LA*, to be screened at UUSG at 7pm on October 15.

This film is an Emmy award-winning DVD about three Latina women working in sweatshops and their efforts to get basic worker rights. A review in *The New York Times* called it "an excellent documentary about basic human dignity."

For more information about the Friday Flick Series, please register at <http://content.uusg.org/friday-flicks/> to receive email notices of future programs.

### Thank You to Our September Lazarus House Volunteers!

Shawn Thornton made dinner, Colleen Besic made lunch, and Jeanne Neltner stayed overnight. We need volunteers for the upcoming months. See the Social Justice bulletin board for Lazarus House volunteer opportunities.

### Action Alert

#### Tell Valero CEO: Stop attacking our nation's best Global Warming Regulations

With the Senate's failure to pass an anti global-warming bill, legislation on the state level is currently our most direct answer to saving the planet. California already passed one of the toughest anti-global warming laws in the world (AB32) back in 2006—and its regulations will start being phased in next year.

**But not if a bunch of oil companies in Texas have their way.** Texas oil companies Valero and Tesoro have spent \$3.5 million to fund Prop 23 in California, a deceptive initiative that, if approved by voters this November, will effectively reverse AB32.

Please go to the following website to send a message to the CEO of Valero Oil to stop attacking our nation's best Global Warming Regulations.

[http://act.credoaction.com/campaign/valero\\_boycott\\_ntnl/?r=6005&id=10760-1411073-YEholYx](http://act.credoaction.com/campaign/valero_boycott_ntnl/?r=6005&id=10760-1411073-YEholYx)

Then, don't buy gas at Valero. Valero and Tesoro operate gas stations under the following brands. Boycott all of these locations: Valero, Beacon, Diamond Shamrock, Shamrock, Corner Store, Ultramar, Tesoro, Mirastar, and USA Petroleum.

Tracey McFadden, for the Social Justice Committee

## More Social Justice News

### September RSVP

We're excited about our volunteer opportunities for the new church year!

**September: Northern Illinois Food Bank (ages 8 and up are welcome with a parent)**

On Saturday, September 25 we will return to Northern Illinois Food Bank for a 9-11am "youth shift." In addition to adult volunteers, children ages 8 and up are invited with a parent. Volunteers will pack food and other necessities for people in need in northern Illinois.

**October: Reverse Trick-or-Treat (Kids and parents!)**

You're used to collecting candy for Halloween...how about giving back? During the month of October, we're looking for enthusiastic trick-or-treaters to give Fair Trade chocolate to friends and neighbors. UUSG will provide chocolates with cards attached, explaining the importance of Fair Trade in reducing child labor and improving the wages paid to producers in developing countries. You can hand out candy on Halloween while trick-or-treating or before Halloween, if you prefer. For more information on Fair Trade, check out the UUSC website: <http://www.uusc.org/rtot/reverse-trick-or-treating-2010>.

Sign up for RSVP opportunities on the Social Justice bulletin board in the Common Room, register online at <http://content.uusg.org/rsvp-program/>, or contact Lisa Gades. Thank you for your continued support!

Date	Location	Ages	Requirements	Activities
Sept. 25 9am-11am	Northern Illinois Food Bank 600 Industrial Dr., St. Charles	Ages 8 through adult	1 adult for every 5 kids; closed- toe shoes	Sorting and packing food for pantries
Mid-late October	UUSG and Your Neighborhood	Trick-or- treaters	Parental supervision	Distribute Fair Trade chocolate to neighbors

### CROP Walk!

Some of our members and friends will participate in the annual Tri-Cities CROP Walk on Sunday, October 17 along with walkers from other area churches and organizations. Prior to that date, our CROP walkers will be collecting donations for local and international hunger relief. Besides simply having fun, the purpose of walking is to remind us that those in need often walk such distances just to serve their daily needs.

A list of walkers can be found on the Social Justice bulletin board in the Common Room. Last year our walkers raised over \$450 and the amount collected from the entire walk was \$36,700. For more information, contact Shawn Thornton.

### Giving "Beyond Our Walls"

In September, we collected \$1526 for the Lazarus House.

Located in St. Charles, Lazarus House serves the homeless and at-risk in mid-Kane County. Last year, 382 men, women, and children were helped there. Daily services available at Lazarus House include 3 meals a day, shower and laundry facilities, personal hygiene items, rental assistance, and case management. Education and employment services are available in the learning lab.

If you are interested in volunteering for Lazarus House, please register online at <http://content.uusg.org/lazarus-house> or contact Jeanne Neltner through 630-232-2350.

## Circles of Life

We send our condolences to Renee Tomell, whose mother Numi passed away this month. A memorial service will be scheduled in October.

We send our best wishes & prayers for full recoveries for Ruth Fitzpatrick, Al Bull, and any and all others dealing with serious health issues.

Ruth and Jack Fitzpatrick have moved to Springfield, to be close to their daughter Arla and granddaughter Laurel, both of whom are nurses. It's a sensible decision - but we'll miss them!

We also send our sympathy to the families who have recently lost their beloved family pet (including Sandi Sumner, whose dog Tattoo died after a long & happy life). We welcome pictures of pets, past and present, at our Blessing of the Beasts service on Sunday, September 26, at 2pm.

Over the summer, a few of members moved. We're pleased to report that Joan McInnes is settling in to life in Denver with her family, and that Gloria Simo (Kotula) is getting used to living in Springfield. We also learned this month that Kathryn Harris has moved to Chicago. We wish them all the best and hope they'll be back to visit us soon!

On September 19, Lindsay celebrated a private baptism for Zachary Deering, son of Marty and Deborah Deering.

Jeanne Neltner and Dave Meehan renewed their vows for their 20th Anniversary on September 8.

## Save the Date: Fifth Friday Fellowship

On Friday, October 29, we will celebrate our first "Fifth Friday Fellowship." We hope this will become a regular celebration of the UUSG community.

October's event, titled "Bring a Gratitude," will focus on celebrating UUSG and its volunteers. More details will be available in the October Pioneer, but we encourage everyone to put this important event on their calendar.

## Music at UUSG

Have you noticed a special energy in the music at UUSG in past several months? Musicians of all kinds, ages, and styles are volunteering nearly every weekend to share their talents during our services. It's a neat opportunity to perform for an appreciative audience. If you are willing, but would rather be a part of a small group, talk to Tracy Rosenkrans and she'll try to help you.

Thank you to all who have already stepped up! In August & Sept, we were entertained by Abby MacKay Zacker, Marty Román, Jane Welsh, Emma Baar, Kristen McFadden, Dave & Jennifer Briggs, as well as our wonderful pianist, Michael McElvain! Looking ahead in October, we'll get to hear from our choir, Lynn Fisher McCanne, Dean Malambri, David Montgomery, & others!

If you are interested in sharing your musical talents or ideas, please contact Tracy Rosenkrans.



## Blessing Our Animal Companions

You and your well-behaved (please!) companion animals - furred or feathered, shelled or scaled - are invited to a special service on Sunday afternoon, September 26, at 2pm in the church's front yard and memorial garden. Please be sure your pets are leashed or in secure carriers.

For those who would like to help with the care of animals seeking homes, we'll be collecting items for the Anderson Animal Shelter (see their wish list at [http://www.andersonanimalshelter.org/help/wish\\_list.html](http://www.andersonanimalshelter.org/help/wish_list.html)).

Should the weather that day make an outdoors service impractical, we'll reschedule for the late spring. (Sorry - but bringing our beloved beasts into the Sanctuary isn't an option.)

## Two Offerings of Spiritual Direction at UUSG This Fall

Two offerings of what? Have you felt called to deeper exploration of who you are – or might be - in the world? Ever thought that you'd like to explore your inner landscape from a holistic perspective? Ever wondered what Spiritual Direction is and if it may fit in your current spiritual practice? Now's your chance!

Pam Rumancik, our Intern Minister, will be offering two options for exploring the genre as part of her internship program this year. Up to five slots will be available for individual direction with an additional group meeting once a month. You are free to choose either or both options but a commitment to regular attendance is required. The spiritual direction group will have a maximum of eight members and a minimum of four.

There will be a short informational meeting on Sunday, October 3<sup>rd</sup> at 12:30pm. In the meantime, pick up a brochure describing the practice and goals of spiritual direction and/or contact Pam at [internminister@uusg.org](mailto:internminister@uusg.org) or 630-232-2350 x226 to find out more.

## Choir Begins!

We welcome all voices to join our choir for the following services. Please contact Ruth Cavanaugh at [choir@uusg.org](mailto:choir@uusg.org) if you'd like to join in.

**Service:** Christmas Eve Candlelight Service 8:00 PM

**Rehearsals:** 12/5, 12/12, 12/19, warm-up on 12/24 at 6:45pm

**Services:** Easter Sunday, April 24, 2011 (Ecology Theme)

**Rehearsals:** 4/10 & 4/17

**Services:** Sunday, June 5, 2011 (Flower Service)

**Rehearsals:** 5/22, 5/29

**General Information:** Sunday Rehearsals will be held in the Sanctuary from 12:45-2:15pm. On the Sundays that we sing, our warm-up begins at 8:45am. Services are at 9:30am & 11:15am.

## Pottawatomie Habitat for Humanity Update

Work on the current Habitat house continues, and the Board members and owner-to-be sense that the end is in sight! Dave Hansen, PHFH Board Chair, is at the site every Saturday and puts in many additional hours during the week purchasing materials and making contacts with area construction companies that donate their time. Dave was recently joined on several Saturdays by volunteers Nancy Goodfellow, Hal Schulman, and Aaron Clevenger.

For the last month, these volunteers and others from local churches have constructed a closet and covers for 2 heating ducts, installed kitchen cabinets, painted numerous rooms, and installed drywall. Upcoming projects include painting more rooms and laying flooring.

The owner-to-be, Randy, is the mother of an 11-year-old daughter and a 6-year-old son, and they are all eager to move in! Randy, who is the deli manager at a local supermarket, is at the work site every Saturday with several family members and friends.

On Saturdays, lunches for the volunteers are provided by members of local churches. In August, UUSG's own Yuri Ferrell brought a wonderful hot lunch and her son Ken, who then joined the volunteers for their afternoon projects. It's great to witness our youth putting to good use their skills from their YRUU Habitat trip!

If you'd like to help out, talk to Nancy Goodfellow or Hal Schulman.

Everyone can be a star in the 2010 UUSG All-church Auction...

## Lights!....Camera!....Auction!

November 13, 2010, 5-8:30pm

This year's auction will feature great food, and lots of fun for people of all ages. Childcare will be provided with special activities and food. Parents need to contact Katie ahead of time to reserve places for your kids; she can be reached at [office@uusg.org](mailto:office@uusg.org) or 630-232-2350.

**3 ways to donate:** 1) Fill in the form below and mail it to the church. 2) Look for a form in the Common Room and leave it in the box. 3) Or make an online donation – click on the link under “What’s New” on the UUSG website or go to [www.togetherauction.com/uusg](http://www.togetherauction.com/uusg).

If possible, please submit a photo of the item or service with your donation. You could either clip a photo to a donation submitted in the box or by mail or send a digital photo (e.g. jpg, etc.) as an attachment to an email addressed to [uusgauction@sbcglobal.net](mailto:uusgauction@sbcglobal.net).

**Publicize your specialty:** If you are in business for yourself, drop your business card in the box in the Common Room. It will be printed in the catalog for a modest fee of \$5.

**Volunteer to help:** at computer stations or in the “G-rated” kids rooms.

### Important Dates

**October 23:** Final date for submitting a donation form online or in the Common Room:

**November 7: 9am-1pm** or **November 12: 7-9pm:** Bring donations to the church

**November 13: 5-6:30pm** Finger food potluck and Silent Auction

**6:30-8:30pm** Live Auction

Return this form to a box in the Common Room or donate an item online at

<http://www.togetherauction.com/uusg>

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ email: \_\_\_\_\_

Choose a category:  Artwork/Craft  Basket  Collectible  Education

Entertainment  Excursion  Food  Jewelry  Literary  Party

Service  Tickets  Miscellaneous

I/we are donating the following item: \_\_\_\_\_

Description (include number of seats/places): \_\_\_\_\_

Address where guests should meet (if relevant): \_\_\_\_\_

Time: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

A photo of the item is attached to this form.

I/we could accept one more person

Estimated value: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Minimum Bid (optional): \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please contact me to help with an Auction Committee

I will bring the following type of finger food:

appetizer  small sandwich  dessert

# Volunteer Headquarters

## Volunteer Appreciation

We send our heartfelt thanks to:

Julie Riffle, for her tireless work as the chair of the Green Sanctuary Committee. Julie recently resigned that position, but we want to recognize her extraordinary talents and energy.

Carolyn Lach, who went through a whole bottle of elbow grease cleaning this kitchen this week

Vohny Moehling, for keeping our Equal Exchange Coffee Center well-stocked

David Tomell and Hal Schulman, for recently completing building inspections

Kathy Meier, for organizing rides for Helen Hawkins

Our September Greeters: George & Gail Tattersfield, Anne Wilson-Dooley, Doreen Christiani, Pat Ward, Ellie Radvanovsky, and John Laukaitis

Our September Social Hour Hosts: Vohny Moehling, Ellie Radvanovsky, Geoff Pynn, Carolyn Lach, Rhonda Robinson & David deCoriolis, Tracy Paszkiet, Wendi Barlow, Doreen Christiani, and David Tomell

Our Current Lineup of Fall Teachers: Jen Reiner, Becky Hruby, Ben Walker, Mylane Bryant, Lesley Ronson Brown, Julie Wegerich, Tracy Rosenkrans, Steve Cordogan, Wendy Evans-Glazier, George Hickman, Tracy Paszkiet, Diane Handler, Lisa McCarthy, Jennifer Briggs, Tom Russo, Karen Laukaitis, Mary Swanson, Bob Swanson, Kim McDuffee-Dotson, Christy Hickey, Shawn Thornton, Jenny Montgomery, Hillary Accarizzi, Nancy Christensen, Elba Karim, Zia Karim, Bill Pokorny, and Laura Laughlin

## New Directory Available Soon!

The Fall-Winter 2010 Directory of UUSG Members & Friends will be available in early October.

Please check the display in the Common Room to make sure that we have the correct contact info for you and your family.

## Greeting & Hosting in October

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

(Remember, in order to have coffee at the October social hour, all hosting slots need to be filled by the end of September!)

## Drivers Needed!

If anyone would like to join the group of volunteer drivers on a weekly, monthly, or as-needed basis, please contact Kathy Meier.

## 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% to 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.)

## Volunteer in Your Pajamas

We're getting the word out! UUSG events have been covered in local papers recently, but we'd like some help keeping track of where we're getting press.

We need your help to keep track of which papers are featuring us! We're looking for volunteers to browse the following papers:

- \* the Republican
- \* the Sun
- \* the Kane County Chronicle,
- \* the Aurora Beacon News,
- \* the Daily Herald, and
- \* the Elgin Courier.

If you'd like to volunteer to clip articles from one (or more) of the above newspapers, let Katie know at [office@uusg.org](mailto:office@uusg.org) or 630-232-2350.

Our calendar is provided on the next page, and is current as of September 22, 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, October 15, at 9:00 a.m.**

# OCTOBER 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>26</b> <b>9:30 AM</b> & 11:15 AM Worship & Church School; Social Hours at 10:30 AM & 12:15 PM <b>10:30 AM</b> Hospitality & Fellowship Committee Meeting <b>10:45 AM</b> Communications Committee Meeting <b>11:15 AM</b> Big Ideas Covenant Group <b>1:00 PM</b> Sandel's Justice Study Group <b>2:00 PM</b> Bless the Beasts: Service of Blessing for Our Companion Animals	<b>27</b> <i>Acting DRE's Day Off</i> <b>7:00 PM</b> Adult RE - "Still Living in the Present Moment"	<b>28</b> <b>1:00 PM</b> Staff Meeting <b>7:30 PM</b> Last Tuesday Group Hypnosis	<b>29</b> Final Day of Sukkot <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>30</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>1</b> <i>Acting DRE on Medical Leave</i> <i>Congregational Administrator's Day Off</i> <b>5:00 PM</b> Brztowski/Castoro Wedding Rehearsal	<b>2</b> <i>Acting DRE on Medical Leave</i> <i>Congregational Administrator's Day Off</i> <b>4:00 PM</b> Brztowski/Castoro Wedding
<b>3</b> <i>Acting DRE on Medical Leave</i> <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>12:30 PM</b> Spiritual Direction Informational Meeting <b>12:45 PM</b> Choir Rehearsal <b>1:00 PM</b> Coming of Age Program <b>1:00 PM</b> UU Atheism/Humanism Study Group <b>2:00 PM</b> Private Recital	<b>4</b> <i>Acting DRE on Medical Leave</i> <i>Ministers at UUMA Retreat</i> <b>7:00 PM</b> Adult RE - "Still Living in the Present Moment" <b>7:30 PM</b> Technology Committee Meeting	<b>5</b> <i>Ministers at UUMA Retreat</i> <b>1:00 PM</b> Staff Meeting <b>4:00 PM</b> Steeple Walk Committee Meeting <b>7:00 PM</b> Sacred Harp Singing <b>7:30 PM</b> Program & Administrative Councils	<b>6</b> <i>Congregational Administrator on Vacation</i> <i>Ministers at UUMA Retreat</i> <b>7:00 PM</b> "Healthy Habits" Group <b>7:00 PM</b> Compassionate Communication Study Group <b>7:00 PM</b> UU Buddhism Meditation and Study Group <b>7:30 PM</b> GAS AA	<b>7</b> <i>Congregational Administrator on Vacation</i> <i>Ministers at UUMA Retreat</i> <b>7:00 PM</b> Youth Outlook (youth can begin arriving at 6:30pm) <b>7:15 PM</b> WomenSpirit Rising (meeting off-site)	<b>8</b> <i>Congregational Administrator's Day Off</i>	<b>9</b> <i>Acting DRE's Day Off</i> <i>Congregational Administrator's Day Off</i> <b>1:00 PM</b> Committee on Ministries Meeting <b>6:30 PM</b> Junior High Youth Group
<b>10</b> <b>8:15 AM</b> Choir Warm-up <b>9:30 AM</b> & 11:15 AM Worship & Church School; Social Hours at 10:30 AM & 12:15 PM <b>10:00 AM</b> Auction Committee Chair Meeting <b>10:30 AM</b> Commit to Knit <b>10:45 AM</b> Finance Committee Meeting <b>11:15 AM</b> Big Ideas Covenant Group <b>12:30 PM</b> Membership Committee Meeting <b>12:30 PM</b> Social Justice Committee Meeting <b>2:00 PM</b> Lay Ministers' Meeting <b>7:00 PM</b> 2nd Sunday (Story Tellers) Covenant Group	<b>11</b> <i>Acting DRE's Day Off</i> <b>1:30 PM</b> Women's Guild <b>7:00 PM</b> Adult RE - "Still Living in the Present Moment" <b>7:00 PM</b> Reiki Discussion Group	<b>12</b> <b>1:00 PM</b> Staff Meeting <b>7:30 PM</b> Board of Directors	<b>13</b> <b>7:00 PM</b> UU Buddhism Meditation and Study Group <b>7:30 PM</b> GAS AA	<b>14</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>15</b> <i>Congregational Administrator's Day Off</i> <b>9:00 AM</b> PIONEER deadline <b>7:00 PM</b> Friday Flicks: "Made in L.A."	<b>16</b> <i>Acting DRE's Day Off</i> Augustus H. Conant Born in 1811 <i>Congregational Administrator's Day Off</i> <b>11:00 AM</b> Memorial Service for Joanne Erickson (reception to follow) <b>3:30 PM</b> Small Group Ministry <b>6:00 PM</b> Saturday Supper & Seminar Series <b>6:30 PM</b> Games Night!
<b>17</b> <b>9:30 AM</b> & 11:15 AM Worship & Church School; Social Hours at 10:30 AM & 12:15 PM <b>11:00 AM</b> Visitors & Newcomers Mini-Orientation Session <b>11:15 AM</b> Big Ideas Covenant Group <b>12:45 PM</b> Hospitality & Fellowship Committee Meeting <b>12:45 PM</b> Visitors & Newcomers Mini-Orientation Session <b>1:00 PM</b> Coming of Age Program <b>1:00 PM</b> Sandel's Justice Study Group <b>2:00 PM</b> Hold for Tomell Memorial Service <b>7:00 PM</b> Reiki Share	<b>18</b> <i>Acting DRE's Day Off</i> <b>7:00 PM</b> Adult RE - "Still Living in the Present Moment"	<b>19</b> <b>1:00 PM</b> Staff Meeting <b>4:00 PM</b> Steeple Walk Committee Meeting <b>7:00 PM</b> Reiki Share <b>7:00 PM</b> Sacred Harp Singing	<b>20</b> <b>6:00 PM</b> Pioneer Mailing Prep <b>7:00 PM</b> Compassionate Communication Study Group <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>21</b> <i>Senior Minister's Sabbath</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>7:15 PM</b> WomenSpirit Rising (meeting off-site)	<b>22</b> <i>Acting DRE at LREDA Conference</i> <i>Congregational Administrator's Day Off</i>	<b>23</b> <i>Acting DRE at LREDA Conference</i> <i>Congregational Administrator's Day Off</i> <i>Intern Minister Out of Town</i>

<p><b>24</b>  <i>Acting DRE at LREDA Conference</i>  <i>Intern Minister Out of Town</i>  <b>9:30 AM</b> &amp; 11:15 AM Worship &amp; Church School; Social Hours at 10:30 AM &amp; 12:15 PM  <b>10:45 AM</b> Communications Committee Meeting  <b>11:15 AM</b> Big Ideas Covenant Group  <b>12:45 PM</b> Auction Catalog Pizza Party  <b>1:00 PM</b> Sandel's Justice Study Group  <b>2:00 PM</b> Hold for Tomell Memorial Service</p>	<p><b>25</b>  <i>Acting DRE at LREDA Conference</i>  <i>Acting DRE's Day Off</i>  <i>Intern Minister Out of Town</i>  <b>7:00 PM</b> Adult RE - "Still Living in the Present Moment"</p>	<p><b>26</b>  <b>1:00 PM</b> Staff Meeting  <b>7:30 PM</b> Last Tuesday Group Hypnosis</p>	<p><b>27</b>  <b>7:00 PM</b> UU Buddhism Meditation and Study Group  <b>7:30 PM</b> GAS AA</p>	<p><b>28</b>  <i>Senior Minister's Sabbath</i>  <b>7:00 PM</b> Youth Outlook (youth can begin arriving at 6:30pm)</p>	<p><b>29</b>  <i>Congregational Administrator's Day Off</i>  <b>4:00 PM</b> 5th Friday Fellowship</p>	<p><b>30</b>  <i>Acting DRE's Day Off</i>  <i>Congregational Administrator's Day Off</i></p>
<p><b>31</b>  <b>9:30 AM</b> &amp; 11:15 AM Worship &amp; Church School; Social Hours at 10:30 AM &amp; 12:15 PM  <b>11:15 AM</b> Big Ideas Covenant Group</p>	<p><b>1</b>  <i>Acting DRE's Day Off</i>  <i>Senior Minister on Retreat</i>  <b>7:00 PM</b> Adult RE - "Still Living in the Present Moment"  <b>7:30 PM</b> Technology Committee Meeting</p>	<p><b>2</b>  <i>Senior Minister on Retreat</i>  <b>1:00 PM</b> Staff Meeting  <b>4:00 PM</b> Steeple Walk Committee Meeting  <b>7:00 PM</b> Sacred Harp Singing  <b>7:30 PM</b> Program &amp; Administrative Councils</p>	<p><b>3</b>  <i>Senior Minister on Retreat</i>  <b>7:00 PM</b> "Healthy Habits" Group  <b>7:00 PM</b> Compassionate Communication Study Group  <b>7:00 PM</b> UU Buddhism Meditation and Study Group  <b>7:30 PM</b> GAS AA</p>	<p><b>4</b>  <i>Senior Minister on Retreat</i>  <b>7:00 PM</b> Youth Outlook (youth can begin arriving at 6:30pm)  <b>7:15 PM</b> WomenSpirit Rising</p>	<p><b>5</b>  <i>Congregational Administrator's Day Off</i>  <i>Senior Minister on Retreat</i></p>	<p><b>6</b>  <i>Acting DRE's Day Off</i>  <i>Congregational Administrator's Day Off</i>  <i>Senior Minister on Retreat</i>  <b>9:00 AM</b> Yellow House Artists Meeting</p>

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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

The next Pioneer deadline is October 15, 2010 at 9am. Please send all articles to BOTH [office@uusg.org](mailto:office@uusg.org) AND [minister@uusg.org](mailto:minister@uusg.org).