

Kairos

September 21, 2011 Newsletter of the Unitarian Universalist Church



Our Mission: Guided by reason and sustained by love, we are a liberal religious community inspiring people to transform our world.

September 25, 2011

8:45 a.m. & 11:00 a.m. (Choir)

Consumer Covenant

The Rev. Dr. Matthew Johnson-Doyle

We've all been trained to be consumers – to evaluate how good of a deal we are getting, or how “happy” some purchase will make us. This attitude has crept into other parts of our lives – relationships, education, service, and religion – where, I believe, it is distorting the covenantal nature of the good life. Thoughts on how to make the shift and be *actually* happy.

October 2, 2011

8:45 a.m (Choir) & 11:45 a.m.

Forgiveness without Righteousness

The Rev. Dr. Matthew Johnson-Doyle

Have you noticed, as I have, that some people use forgiveness as a way of indicating their righteousness? They say, “I forgive you” but what they mean is “See, I was right and you were wrong.” I even admit that I might have done this once or twice. Or more. This perception of forgiveness makes it harder to ask for, give, and accept forgiveness. Reflections on how we might have forgiveness without righteousness.

Sunday Helpers

September 25, 2011, 8:45 a.m.

Ushers..... Susan Halvorsen & Ruth Little
Greeters..... **Volunteers Needed**
Coffee..... James & Megan Dobbs
Guest Table..... **Volunteers needed**
Worship Associate..... Gale Ketteler
Sound Tech..... Allen Penticoff

Sunday Helpers

October 2, 2011, 8:45 a.m.

Ushers..... Rhonda Best
Greeters..... **Volunteers needed**
Coffee..... Sunday Covenant Group
Guest Table..... Linda Sandquist
Worship Associate..... Paul Goddard
Sound Tech..... Leah Krippner

Sunday Helpers

September 25, 2011, 11:00 a.m.

Ushers..... Bill Smith & Cheryl Stockwell
Greeters..... Steve Blomgren & Barb Smith
Coffee..... Ann & Bob Bowling
Guest Table..... **Volunteers needed**
Worship Associate..... Gale Ketteler
Sound Tech..... Allen Penticoff

Sunday Helpers

October 2, 2011, 11:00 a.m.

Ushers..... **Volunteers needed**
Greeters..... Gene & Lola Gustafson
Coffee..... Sunday Covenant Group
Guest Table..... **Volunteers needed**
Worship Associate..... Paul Goddard
Sound Tech..... Leah Krippner

Church Meetings and Events

CHALICE CIRCLES

Did you mean to sign up for a Chalice Circle, and are worried that now it's too late? Fear not. There are still openings in the Wednesday evening (7-8:30 p.m.) and Thursday afternoon (3-4:30 p.m.) Circles. Even if you can't make the first meetings this week, we still encourage you to sign up by either contacting the church office at 815-398-6322 or adding your name to the sign up sheet in the narthex on Sunday morning.

“PLAY”DATE WITH THE PLAYGROUND

A big thank you to the members of our community who worked on our playground in the rain this Sunday. They got a lot done, but were unable to work on the topsoil.

So, this Wednesday, 9/21, from 10am-4pm will be a playground workday. We need your help in spreading our playground topsoil! "Many hands make light work." We need everyone's help--and your wheel-barrow, rakes & shovels too.

Even if you can come for just an hour, we could use the help! See you Wednesday!

ADOPT-A-ROAD... SEPT. 24 @ 8:00 A.M.

With the bite of Fall in the air, it is time we once again search our stretch of Linden Road for trash and treasure. Mostly trash is what we find in abundance. Since we've not done the clean up lately, we should have a good haul.

We are meeting at the NiCor Gas parking lot on Linden Road, just east of Alpine Road on Saturday Sept. 24 at 8:00 a.m. Clean up usually takes only an hour and afterwards we get together for that special UU camaraderie at the 5 Coins Restaurant on Sandy Hollow Road. We all enjoy doing this public service very much. The more the merrier and the faster it goes.

We are pleased to announce that we have new orange vests and "pick up grabbers" available courtesy of Rockford Yacht Club (whose Adopt-A-Road effort we coordinate too).

Let us know you are planning to attend and we'll look for you on Saturday. Last minute drop-ins are more than welcome to participate as well. Contact Allen Penticoff @ 815-985-1108 or apenticoff@comcast.net
Allen & Ruth Penticoff, Adopt-a-Road Coordinators



VOLUNTEER & HOSPITALITY TRAINING

Sept 25 12:30-1:30pm

Learning to show our guests and members radical hospitality takes intentionality. Become a hospitality superhero. You will be empowered to welcome in so many ways! How to run the coffee, be an usher, greeter, know the ins and outs of the guest table. Experienced volunteers are especially invited as we need your knowledge as we grow new ways of welcoming.

Gather in the narthex, enjoy an **apple cider donut**, and in less than an hour—you too can be radically hospitable!

BOOK SALE

The Book Sale sponsored by the Library Committee is scheduled for **Saturday, October 8**. Books will be accepted **Sunday, October 2, Wednesday, Oct. 5, and Thursday, Oct. 6**. This year we are not accepting magazines, encyclopedias, or textbooks. The sale will be from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. and help is most welcome the two days preceding the sale and during the sale. A sign-up sheet can be found in the entry way of the church. Some of the monies earned during last year's sale have been used to purchase the new projection equipment for the sanctuary, books for students at Jackson School, and new books for the Connolly Library.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT will host the interim superintendent of Rockford School District 205, Robert Willis, on Friday, October 14. **NOTE CHANGE IN DATE.** Come hear the superintendent discuss what he'd like to accomplish in his interim, and his view of our schools--their strengths and weaknesses. Come at noon for a luncheon of chicken or vegetable soup, salad, breads and pumpkin crunch. OR, come at 1:00 p.m. for the program. Reserve for lunch with Mary Ellen Haney, 399-8490; no reservation is needed for the program. All are welcome!

Submitted by Barb Smith and Shari Smallwood

JOIN THE CROP HUNGER WALK

Our Crop Walk group is beginning to grow! More walkers and pledgers are welcome to join. Help others, get some exercise, and enjoy an afternoon with fellow church members all at the same time! We're planning to gather in Deale Hall after church on **October 16th**. How about bringing lunch that day; then we can car pool to the Riverfront Museum Center?

Ann & Bob Bowling, 815-209-9413

OCT. 16 MEMBERSHIP BOOK SIGNING

An opportunity for you to join our congregation & sign the membership book during church services. If you are interested in becoming a member and are ready to make a commitment to our congregation please contact Kimberlee (815)398-6322 / pd@uurockford.org
Next book signing will be Nov. 20.



RAMBLERS

On **October 16th**, in honor of the ghostly, ghastrly holiday season, the Ramblers will have their second annual Greenwood Cemetery scavenger hunt with prizes for the winning team(s). Bring a sack lunch to the church where we will eat after the second service. Maps and grisly clues will be handed out at the church. Questions? Call Francie Barnes at 815-904-1293 for vague disorganized non-answers.

FROM THE ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE

All you Art Museum enthusiasts: **on Oct 19 at 11:15 a.m.** there is a luncheon, silent auction and performance of Cleopatra: A Life by Stacy Schiff. The lunch and performance will be at Giovanni's Restaurant. The cost is \$45.00 per person. If we have 10 interested people we can reserve a table. Let me know if you would like to attend this event and have a table of UUs supporting the museum. Sandi Campbell [815-484-1020](tel:815-484-1020) (home phone). Let me know by **Oct 3, 11.**

PATH TO MEMBERSHIP: Saturday, October 29th from 9:30a.m.-2 p.m. This class is for newcomers, visitors, and friends who are interested in getting more involved. Childcare will be provided at request. Please RSVP to the church office: office@uurockford.org or 815-398-6322. More information to come in the following weeks!

LEAF RAKING

The Boston-bound youth will be offering the service of leaf raking again this fall. Please keep us in mind as the leaves start to fall. Cost will remain \$2 per well filled bag. Please contact Steven Hall at 654-0422 or steven@stevenhall.net with any questions.

UU SOCIAL OPPORTUNITIES

What do you know about AMUUSE-ADULT MIDWEST UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST SINGLES ENRICHMENT? This is THE SUMMER CAMP for UU Singles in Saugatuck, Mi. It is an awesome week in August where new friendships are made and activities are enjoyed. Ask me anytime or at coffee hour and I'll share my recent experiences and photo book. Once you go-

you'll keep coming back for more! *Submitted by Shari Smallwood*

Weekends are full of many events and experiences-and yet they can be long and lonesome if you go it alone. If you would like to share some of these events with fellow UUs, then contact me and let's see what can happen. *Shari Smallwood- SHARIROCKS@att.net or 395-8663*

MEN'S RETREAT: IN SEARCH OF A GOOD HOME

For the past several years, the retreat has been held in March at the Lorado Taft Campus of NIU in Oregon, Illinois. While the sleeping accommodations were sparse, we had a meeting room overlooking the Rock River and the price was right: under \$100 per person for two nights and five good meals. Unfortunately, due to the popularity of the facility, they will no longer accept groups under 40. Since of late our numbers are only about 1/3 of that minimum, I see no way we can continue to use Lorado Taft. Unless someone can come up with an alternative in the next few months, there will not be a retreat in 2012. *David Black, 815-871-8991*

SCRIP?

Stop by and visit Jamie in Deale Hall after service on Sunday to learn more about SCRIP, place your order, and have a treat.

If you have any questions, please contact the church office at 815-398-6322 or office@uurockford.org.

Church Family News

Kathy McGinty's uncle, Bob Tessman, died last Thursday Sept.15, in Belvidere. He was 80 years old. His wife of 42 years, Bernice Tessman, Kathy's aunt, died earlier on August 23. She was 82.

Louise Mayhall won best in category at the Greenwich Village Art Fair last weekend for her whimsical creative fiber art dolls.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY to **Anne Sneed** (9/22), **Shirley Henley Philon** (9/23), **Sally Trefz** (9/23), **Bill Scanton** (9/24), **Jan Scott** (9/25), **Bob Bowling** (9/25), **Leah Krippner** (9/25), **Kathe Heyer** (9/26), **Jack Armstrong** (9/27), **Tom Hunter** (9/28), **Brandi Janssen** (9/29), **Stanley Campbell** (9/30), **Brent Cummings** (9/30), **Ruth Spelman** (10/1), **Mary-Stuart Carruthers** (10/2), **Myrna Lake** (10/2), **Ann Bowling** (10/2), **Sherry Falsetti** (10/5), **Audrey Hart** (10/6), and **Marc Janssen** (10/6)!



Matthew's Memo

Monday morning, as I write this, the newest debate is about President Obama's proposed "Buffett Rule." Like the current Alternative Minimum Tax, this rule would ensure that folks who make over a million dollars a year pay at

least the same percentage of their total income in taxes as middle-class taxpayers. (Warren Buffett has often complained that because some of his income is taxed as investment income, at a lower rate, he pays less in taxes than most of his employees).

You can make policy arguments against such a proposal (that investment income is already taxed or that it should be taxed less to encourage investment). Though some are making that point, what really got my skin boiling today was the charge by Paul Ryan (R-WI) and others that "The Buffett Rule" is "class warfare."

Where to begin? The powerful, who have often seized power and wealth through barely-legal or illegal means, seek to keep that power. It is fine to get rich by exploiting the labor and land of the world's poor. You can sell mortgages that everybody knows are bogus, but if the homeowner can't pay, then they are the ones who lose their home. Slave owners can beat, rape, and murder their "property" but Nat Turner is a dangerous revolutionary.

Study history. Read up on current events. You'll see that class warfare has been the state of affairs through all of human history; the upper class has been winning. I find offensive to justice, reason, and common sense the suggestion that making sure the very rich pay no less as a percent of their income as the typical household is "class warfare."

We're going to be hearing a lot about these debates over the next year, and I hope that you will speak up, no matter what you think; that you will care for all people, no matter who they are; and that you will pay attention, no matter what you decide.

In faith,
Matthew :)

P.S. Let's Meet! I want to invite any and all church members and friends to join me through the month to chat, catch-up, and gather with one another. I'm setting a regular schedule of times where I'll be out and about around town. I would love to see you there. We might just chat about our lives, the news, etc. Sometimes I will ask you for your thoughts and stories in advance of a sermon topic. You might have questions and hopes you want to talk to me about, too. Please come, and feel free to invite your friends.

On the 4th Tuesday of each Month, I'll be at the Bistro at Wesley Willows. Grab some coffee or tea and pull up a chair. See you next on Sept. 27th.

On the 3rd Tuesday of each Month, I'll join the lunch group at India House Restaurant at Noon. They meet each week, and I plan to be there next on Oct. 18th.

On the 1st Wednesday of each Month, I'll be at Katie's Cup in downtown Rockford from 4-5pm. Because of a conference I'll be at in October, we'll start this one on Nov. 2nd.

I'd love to see you there!

Denominational Affairs

Minn Lectures 2011

This is the 50th year of the merger of the Unitarians and the Universalists. In honor of this milestone, this year's Minn lectures in Boston focused on our denomination: where it is now, what's possible in the future and what's next.

If you saw the Fall issue of *UUWorld*, page 54 illustrates where we are today. A map of the United States shows that Illinois has 36 UU congregations, 2 congregations per million people. It's hard to be a strong force with such small numbers.

Rev. Marilyn Sewell complained of our inability to use religious language, our fear of emotion, our individualism standing in the way of joint action.

Check out the ideas at
http://minnslectures.org/2011_series.php

It's only 273 days to Justice GA 2012 in Phoenix, Arizona.

Submitted by Teresa Wilmot, 815-399-5263; work 815-654-7321

The things I want to know are in books; my best friend is the man who'll get me a book I ain't read.

-Abraham Lincoln



Be a "best friend" and donate your books for the church book sale!

Books can be dropped off in Deale Hall on Sunday, October 2, from 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. and on Wednesday and Thursday, October 5 and 6 from 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARD

GIRL ASCENDING WITH MELISSA ANN PINNEY

Womanspace invites the public to a special event with photographer, author, and Columbia College photography professor Melissa Ann Pinney. ***Girl Ascending***, Pinney's latest photo-art book, will be the focus of her presentation **Saturday, October 1 from 10:00am to noon** at the Womanspace campus, located a half mile west of Rock Valley College at 3333 Maria Linden Drive in Rockford. Admission is \$25 or \$20 for Womanspace members. ***Girl Ascending*** is presented in conjunction with the ***Body Fantastic*** art exhibit in Gallery 1 at Womanspace. More information is available at 815-877 0118, info@womanspace-rockford.org, www.womanspace-rockford.org and www.facebook.com/Womanspace. This special event is sponsored by David Boccignone of Ameriprise Financial and Rockford Woman.

OPEN MIKE NIGHT, a weekly open mic held at Katie's Cup every Thursday evening at 5:30 pm. 502 7th St. Across from the old Amcore Bank (now Harris Bank). All poets, musicians, singers, etc. are welcome. Hosted by Christopher D. Sims.

October 14th, 2011 from 6-8 pm. come take part in a Slam poetry and performance poetry workshop, presented by poet Christopher D. Sims at the Rockford Public Library, and Bookworm Bakery & Café--6685 E. State St. (inside the new east branch library). Poets are learning to perform and/or compete. 6:00-8:00 pm. Free and open to the public.

FROM THE CHURCH OFFICE

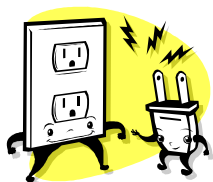
Kairos: The next issue of *Kairos* will be published on Wednesday, October 5. Please submit all articles for publication by noon on Monday, October 3. Articles can be submitted to kairos@uurockford.org.

UU Apparel

If there is sufficient interest, we will place an order for UU Rockford apparel this fall. Items to choose from include t-shirts (men's and women's cuts), sweatshirts, fleece jackets, and denim shirts. Please contact the church office at office@uurockford.org to express interest or get more information.

Need a **new nametag**? Please contact the church office before October 2nd. We can make you a temporary one as well!

Rehnberg Window items are 10% off through the end of September. All items are on display in the glass case outside the church office and can be purchased during office hours.



HOSPITALITY PLUG

Right now, the gaps in our hospitality schedule outnumber the shifts for which people have volunteered. We ask you to please consider being a welcoming face for members and visitors alike. Sign up on Sunday, contact Kimberlee at pd@uurockford.org, or come to the hospitality training on Sunday, September 25th.

Unitarian Universalist Church

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Voice: 815-398-6322
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Trustees

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Office Hours

Monday—Thursday: 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Friday: 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Saturday: Closed

Sunday: 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

The *Kairos* is published bi-weekly. Articles are to be submitted by noon on the Monday before publication. Articles may be submitted by e-mailing your article to kairos@uurockford.org.

The Unitarian Universalist Church
4848 Turner Street
Rockford IL 61107-5099

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Church Calendar at a Glance

*(Please keep in mind that the calendar changes on a daily basis and does not show outside rentals.
 To check on the availability of a date please check with the church office.)*

Thursday, September 22

7:00 p.m. Choir Practice, HCR

Friday, September 23

9:30 a.m. UU Mom's Group, CL

Saturday, September 24

8:00 a.m. Adopt-a-Highway, Offsite

Sunday, September 25

8:30 a.m. -12:30 p.m. Childcare, N

8:45 a.m. Worship Service, S

9:45 a.m. Social Hour w/ Bake Sale, DH

10:00 a.m. Church School

10:00 a.m. Choir Practice, HCR

11:00 a.m. Worship Service, S

12:00 p.m. Social Hour, DH

12:30 p.m. Hospitality Training, Narthex

Monday, September 26

12:00 p.m. Kairos deadline (e-mail submissions to kairos@uurockford.org)

6:00 p.m. League of Women Voters-Common Core Standards Discussion, S & DH

Wednesday, September 28

9:00 a.m. Kairos Crew, OWR

7:00 p.m. Board of Trustees, CCR

Thursday, September 29

7:00 p.m. Choir Practice, HCR

Sunday, October 2

8:00 a.m. Choir Practice, HCR

8:30 a.m. -12:30 p.m. Childcare, N

8:45 a.m. Worship Service, S

9:45 a.m. Social Hour/Book Sale drop-off

10:00 a.m. Church School

11:00 a.m. Worship Service, S

12:00 p.m. Social Hour/Book Sale drop-off, DH

Monday, October 3

7:00 p.m. Buildings & Grounds Meeting, OWR

Wednesday, October 5

9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. Book Sale set-up/book drop off, DH

Thursday, October 6

9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. Book Sale set-up, DH

7:00 p.m. Choir Practice, HCR

Saturday, October 8

8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. Book Sale, DH

S=Sanctuary, C=Chapel, DH=Deale Hall, HCR=Hotchkiss Choir Room, CCR=Caskey Conference Room, OWR=Office Work Room, CL=Connolly Library, N=Narthex, YL=Youth Lounge, WY=Whitney Young Meeting Room(1), MFMR=Margaret Fuller Meeting Room; CB=Clara Barton Meeting Room(2), EMR=Emerson Meeting Room (21), TBD = To be determined

