



# First Unitarian News

First Unitarian Society of Chicago 5650 S. Woodlawn Ave., Chicago IL 60637 (773) 324-4100

## Both Sides

### Rev. Nina Grey, Senior Minister

There aren't many maple trees around here ... a few lining the museum walk. Their red fall foliage strikes me speechless, leaves me breathless and makes me yearn for New England, for just a minute or so. Most of their red leaves will be on the ground within days now, blown in circles by the gusting winds and rains, adding their bits of vibrant color to the little piles of golden, orange and brown. Poet Mary Oliver reminds us that to live in this world we must hold living things "against our bones knowing our life depends on them," and then when the time comes, "let them go." So we let go of the warmth of summer and the vibrancy of fall, remembering that everything dies at last. Remembering also that, helped by the elements, leaves will decay to feed new life in springs anticipated.

The seasonal cycles tell the story of life's birth, growth, death and rebirth, and we remember that for living beings and communities there is life and death and new life, there are endings and beginnings.

Our beloved Polly McCoo, in her journey toward dying repeated in a hundred ways the importance of honoring those gone before both because of the intrinsic value of their lives and also because of what they birthed into being. The ancestors of this church brought vision, creativity, energy, persistence and joy. Polly knew and loved many of them. She began to gather their stories into a Heritage Project. She carried this mantel and though she is gone, we will carry it on. Stories of the past can feed vision for the future. And, in the way of leaders who move us forward rather than holding us back, Polly also wove visions for the future, imagining new possibilities right and left. Fed by this church, she chose to spend her final months feeding its future every day. Not content to rest on laurels or dwell on former days, she prodded us to experiment. This too we will carry on.



In the spirit of honoring the past and dreaming the future, we will honor the ancestors during our Time for All Ages, November 4th, especially those ancestors who have been our teachers and guides. Please bring an object or picture representing one has gone before, one who taught you an important life lesson that guides your future.

And Dr. Lee Barker and I will join together in imagining a future for our faith. We will speak of education for a relevant faith that takes time seriously and is responsive to the needs of the world. We will speak of a contextual vision in which seminary, church and community interact creatively. We will speak of a faith that tends souls and helps shape the "dawning future."

The vibrant colors of fall strike me speechless. They are beauty in themselves. They are reminders of endings, but not the end, rather a moment in the cycle of life, and with imagination we can see in them the potential of something yet to be born.

With love, in faith,

*Nina*

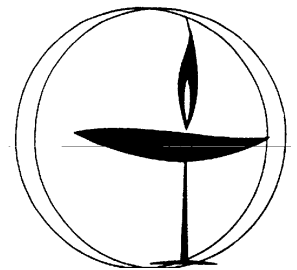
November 2007

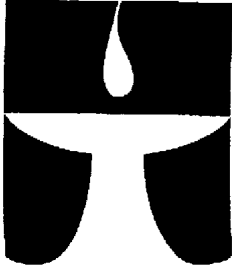
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### Church Office Hours

Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 10:00 am - 9:30 pm  
Wednesday - 11:00 am - 9:30 pm  
Saturday 9:30 am - 6:30 pm

Contact the church office by calling (773) 324-4100  
Administrator Rick Brown's email address:  
[office@firstuchicago.org](mailto:office@firstuchicago.org)

Church Administrator's Consulting Hours  
Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 10:00 am to 1:00 pm  
Wednesday, 11:00 am to 2:00 pm

### Minister's Office Hours

Rev. Nina Grey  
[revgrey@firstuchicago.org](mailto:revgrey@firstuchicago.org)

Mon. Day off  
Tues. 1 - 5 pm  
Wed. Study & sermon prep.  
Thurs. 2 - 6 pm  
Fri. am Study & sermon prep.  
Fri. pm 1 - 5 pm

Also by appointment

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Erica Ward  
Director of Religious Education

## Committee Meetings this Month

Communications - Thurs. Nov. 29 at 7:00 pm

Executive Comm. - Wed. Nov. 7 at 5:30 p.m.

Mgmt. Consulting TF - Tues. Nov. 13 at 6:00 p.m.

Program Council - Tues. Nov. 6 at 7:00 p.m.

Trustees - Thurs. Nov. 15 at 7:00 p.m.

Worship & Music - Thurs. Nov. 1 at 7:00 p.m.

### First Unitarian News

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**Board Talk****By Cindy Pardo****Congregation President**

What a wonderful day it was! On Sunday, Oct. 14, we welcomed eight new members to our beloved community. And so many children came with those new adult members! It was a hopeful sight, indeed. We are so glad to have them all among us.



And then we had a chance to celebrate those who have sustained us for so many years – 25, 50, more than 50. I was so glad that most of our new

members, including those with children, were able to stay for the luncheon and the laudatory remarks. We are very grateful to those who stayed the course over the years.. We also applaud **Evelyn Johnson, Grace Williams and Allen Harden**, who put together such a warm and loving tribute.

I confess that at times I still look at my 16 years at this church with amazement. I grew up with parents who had little use for formal church, though my mother was a paid soloist in several church choirs. Grand Rapids, Michigan, in the 50's, was not very welcoming toward liberal religion, though my father did eventually find his way to an icon of Unitarianism – the Fountain Street Church – and to its minister for over 30 years, the Rev. Dr. Duncan Littlefair.

What I knew little of from childhood experience, and what I have learned here at First Unitarian, is what a church is really all about. Whatever your spiritual path, whether you believe in a deity or not, whatever your reason for joining your fellow members and friends on Sunday morning, or at so many church activities, this is a place where you can be your true self. The threads of our connections at First U weave a rich tapestry that gives our lives meaning.

We come to this church because we want to, not because it is required. We choose to be involved, to play a part in church life, to come to celebrations, choir practice, committee meetings, marches, forums and religious education classes because something here, often the people, makes our paths easier, clearer, more meaningful. Sometimes, we just need to be acknowledged by another person to make it through another day. Sometimes, we want to celebrate life events with folks who will truly be glad for us. Sometimes we need the touch of loving hands when we

grieve. This church fills those needs for so many of us, and we are glad to be together.

**BOARD NOTES:** At our Board of Trustees meeting for October, we heard from **John Saphir** from our Investment Committee about our financial holdings which have given us a healthy endowment of about \$1,200,000. The Board has asked this committee to investigate increasing our socially responsible investments, and they are looking into the best funds for this. We are fortunate to have such dedicated and capable volunteers to do this work.

We also heard from **Rick Brown**, our Church Administrator, and **Madeira Myrieckes**, chair of the Property Committee, about our overall property situation, and some of the short term and longer range plans for keeping our building functional. The Property Committee is looking for a couple of additional members, so if you love this building, or have an interest in learning more about its care, please contact Madeira.

Finally, perhaps our most important action was to approve a loan from the endowment to pay off the rest of the Bell Tower Restoration debt. After a variety of fund-raising efforts, and with the help of several generous bequests, we still owe about \$34,000 for this work. (For those who are new, the restoration amounted to taking down a steeple which was badly in need of repair, at a cost of about \$350,000.) The Board is aware of several further bequests which are expected to come to us within the next few months, so it approved the loan for a six month period. This should give us enough time to receive these additional funds and sort out exactly what is left to be paid. The impetus for this action is that the 2007-08 budget was predicated on the notion that this debt would have been retired before the start of this fiscal year in July, and therefore had no line item for paying interest on the debt. We needed to take some action, and the Board determined this to be the wisest course. If you have any questions about this, please contact me, or **Bette Sikes**.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bette Sikes". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with some loops and flourishes.

## Religious Education

### This Month in Religious Education for Children and Youth

#### Preschool

- 11/4 - Monsters Can Be Nice! (Halloween)
- 11/11 - The Moon Belongs to Everyone (South Asian Mid Autumn Festival)
- 11/25 - Native Americans Have Taught Us Many Things (Thanksgiving)

#### K-3

- 11/4 - Samhain (Pagan New Year)
- 11/11 - Diwali (Hindu Festival of Lights)
- 11/25 - Huichol Indian Day

#### 4-8

- 11/4 - Honoring the Earth (Introduction to Earth-Based Spirituality)
- 11/11 - Earth-Honoring Service (Creating an Earth-Based Service)
- 11/25 - Ritual, Liturgy and Symbol (Introduction to Catholicism)

#### All Grades

Multigenerational Thanksgiving Service

Thank You To...

- **Sharon Glick**, from the Rodfei Zedek Synagogue, for speaking to the K-8th graders about the Jewish High Holy Days
- **Shmyam Batia**, from the Vivekananda Vedanta Society, for speaking to the 4-8th graders about the principles of Hinduism
- **Ivan Lappin**, for building a sukkah frame for the K-3rd graders to decorate
- All the RE teachers, for their talent and commitment
- **Ann Collins and Ivan Lappin**, for substitute teaching when they were dearly needed

### The Importance of Religious Community for Children

“Children are evolving as religious beings, whether we wish it to be so or not. We can choose to be active influences in this evolution, or we can leave the child vulnerable to random messages and meanings from wherever and whomever they come.

“Children will feel moments of intense compassion and

empathy, of heightened and delightful sensory awareness, of healing and renewal, or creativity, even of magic. This is a given of our human nature. If they are given the gift of a thoughtful religious environment, they will be more likely to pause to savor such moments, to name and nurture them. They will have the capacity to celebrate them more fully and will have language with which to connect them with the spiritual.”

- Jeanne Harrison Nieuwejaar, from *The Gift of Faith: Tending the Spiritual Lives of Children*, Skinner House Books, 2003.

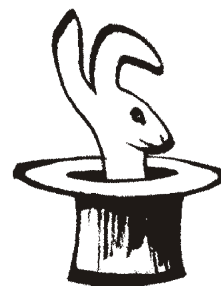
### Dear First Church congregants and friends,

I am pleased to announce that we have hired a Religious Education Assistant to assist with the Religious Education program for children and youth. Her name is Arcenia Harmon, and we are lucky to have her with us. She will work for ten hours a week, with four of her hours on Sunday. If you see her on Sundays, please be sure to greet her warmly. Below, you will find an introduction from Arcenia.

- Erica Lucille Ward, Director of Religious Education for children and youth

Hello,

My name is **Arcenia Harmon**. I'm honored to be the RE Assistant for the 2007-2008 RE year. I was born and raised in Chicago and returned this summer with a BS in Mass Communications, a Master's in Women's Studies, and a lifelong dedication to diversity and social justice. I'm Pagan, but I've always found UU Congregations to be warm and welcoming places and a great place to meet UU Pagan friends along the way. On my religious journey from Baptist to Pagan, I explored many religions from Buddhism to Zoroastrianism and it is this spirit of curiosity and exploration that I hope to encourage in all the children. I look forward to working with all of you towards a productive and fun year!



## First Forums in November

November 4

### Black on the Block: The Politics of Race and Class in the City

Speaker: Mary Pattillo

Mary Pattillo, Professor of Sociology and African-American Studies at Northwestern University, has been studying the process of gentrification in North Kenwood-Oakland. She has lectured widely about her findings, and recently published a book on the subject, *Black on the Block: The Politics of Race and Class in the City*. Black on the Block explores the often heated battles between haves and have-nots, home owners and apartment dwellers, and newcomers and old-timers as they clash over the social implications of gentrification. But gentrification in this Chicago neighborhood has a twist because it is a black gentry revitalizing a poor black neighborhood. This talk highlights the conflicted but crucial role that middle-class blacks play in transforming such districts as they negotiate between established centers of white economic and political power and the needs of their less fortunate black neighbors. Ultimately, Black on the Block argues that while fissures have come to define the black community, the reality is that many African Americans choose participation over abdication and involvement over withdrawal -- even when disagreements become bitter and acrimonious.

November 11

### The Iraq war; A bird's eye view of it's effects on our Veterans

Speaker: Dr. John P. Bair, Phd.

Dr. Bair is a clinical psychologist at Lovell Federal Healthcare center. He is an Assistant Professor of Psychology and Psychiatry at Rosalind Franklin University of Medicine and Science. He has a private practice in Winnetka. He is also a long time member of the North Shore Unitarian Church.

Dr. Bair will be joined by our own Kimberly McIntyre who is a Veteran of the Iraq war where she completed three tours. She is formerly Captain McIntyre United States Army, where she served as a nurse. She will join John in the discussion with commentary and photos. We're really excited to have both of these individuals lead this First Forum. John has worked with many Iraq veterans and Kimberly is a three tour veteran. We should get a comprehensive view of some real issues our vets are facing.

November 18

### The Lost Boys

Speaker: David Deng

David (Lual) Deng will speak about his experiences as a native of Sudan, who had to leave his home and family in 2001 to escape the marauding rebels. He will speak about the crisis in Darfur, document the terrible ordeal of the "lost boys" and life in the camps, and his eventual emigration to the U.S. His presentation will include a 15 minute DVD, and afterwards he will take questions from the audience. Lual is currently a student of economics at Michigan State in Lansing, Michigan.

### Evening Talk and Book Signing

Rev. Dr. Forrest Church

highlighting his new book, *So Help Me God: The Founding Fathers and the First Great Battle Over Church and State*

7:30 pm Friday,

November 9, 2007,

First Unitarian Church of Chicago

5650 S. Woodlawn Ave.

Co-sponsored by the First Unitarian Church of Chicago and Meadville Lombard Theological School

Today's fight over the divide between church and state (or the lack thereof) is not the first, or the fiercest, in our history. In a revelatory look at the birth of our nation, Forrest Church recreates our first great culture war - a tumultuous yet nearly forgotten conflict that raged from George Washington's presidency to James Monroe's. Would we be a nation under god, or with liberty and justice for all? Forrest Church has written a rich, page-turning history that also stands as a reminder and a warning for Americans today.

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## Pauline Daly McCoo

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Pauline Daly McCoo, age 78 years, died October 10, 2007 after living with cancer for many years. Polly remained actively engaged with her church, family, community and friends until a month before she died. In her last few days in hospice Polly was surrounded by people who cared about her and music she loved.

Born in 1928 in the then middle-class neighborhood of Englewood, Polly was the daughter of Paul and Lucille Daly. She attended McCosh Elementary School and Englewood High School. Growing up a Baptist, she learned a Muslim prayer in high school and her class sang the Hebrew Sh'ma at their graduation. Experiences like these, the positive attitudes of her mother, and awareness of the terrible effects of racism led her to reject narrow thought and to be open to people of every race and religion. Her worldview was based on personal dignity and worth, esteem for self and others, love for family, church, community and world, pride in heritage, and a deep generosity of heart and spirit.

Polly studied at the School of the Art Institute and earned a teaching degree at Chicago Teacher's College in 1949. She taught in the public schools, where her specialties were art and remedial reading. Polly was instrumental in setting up Louis Wirth Experimental as a magnet school, where she served as teacher and then counselor for more than ten years, taking on some of the responsibilities of vice principal.

Unitarian Universalist camp experiences at Lake Geneva and at Star Island led Polly to teach in the religious education program of First Unitarian Church, which she did for 20 years. In 1948 she became the first African American member of the church. Polly participated in the civil rights activism of the 1950s and '60s. As a member of the Black Unitarian Universalist Caucus, she helped First Church become the multiracial congregation it is today. In the almost 60 years of her membership, Polly served on the Program Council, the Board of Trustees, and many committees. She spearheaded the multiracial Kwanzaa service that the church celebrates every year. She was the leader who got everyone involved. Polly returned to leadership with the Religious Education Council in the last years of her life, persisting in her commitment to children and families, while at the same time continuing with many other ministries.

Polly's first bout with cancer, 23 years ago, led to alternating treatment and remission. Throughout the years, she remained optimistic, and fully engaged with family, work and church. Her willingness to share her experience with others helped when a friend or church member faced their own or a family member's cancer diagnosis. "I like to say about someone who says yes to life, as Polly did, that they died only at the end of their life. In the words of the poet, Rabindranath Tagore, Polly lived 'a full vessel of a life,'" Rev. Grey said. "In 1999, Polly had been retired from the public schools for a few years, she was awarded the Unsung Unitarian Universalist Award at our annual denomination-wide General Assembly. Her passion for the church didn't slow down."

Preceded in death by her husband, Arthur Lord McCoo III. Polly is survived by her son Paul, of Denver, Colorado, daughter Lia, of Chicago, sister Lucille Pitts and nephew Michael Lowe, both of Kansas, niece Yolanda, of South Carolina, three grandchildren, and numerous friends, including her Alpha Kappa Alpha sorority sisters with whom she met monthly since her college days.

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## Memorial Service for Kay Mann

There will be a Memorial Service for Kay Mann, long time member of our congregation, on November 4 at 3 p.m. in Hull Chapel. Kay died almost one year ago. You are invited to join her family and friends in remembering her as we approach the one year anniversary of her death.



## Come to our 2007 Thanksgiving Seder

You are cordially invited to attend this year's annual Thanksgiving Seder. This is a First Unitarian Church traditional Thanksgiving celebration of readings and songs, done in a format resembling a Jewish Seder. It includes a delicious dinner!

When: Saturday, November 17

Where: The Quadrangle Club, 1155 East 57<sup>th</sup> St.

Time: 6:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Price: Adults & children over 12 - \$30.00

Families (2 adults & children under 12) - \$70.00

Full payment is due by Thursday, November 8. **Tickets cannot be purchased at the door.** Reservation forms available in Hull Chapel during social hour.

This will be a spiritual and joyous event! Families, old and new church members, friends, visitors - are all encouraged to join us!

### Sunday Afternoon Concert

The free Sunday Afternoon Concert on November 11 will feature Jon Frederikson, violin, and Jennifer Maxwell, piano, both members of the music faculty at the University of Chicago. They will perform works by Mozart, Haydn, and Beethoven. A reception will follow. The concert begins at 3:00 p.m.

## Housing Forum

When: Wednesday, December 5, 2007 at 7:00 p.m.

Where: Hyde Park Neighborhood Club, 5480 S. Kenwood Avenue

Purpose: To announce the formation of an organization to monitor housing and related issues that impact the maintenance and development of Hyde Park-Kenwood as a community for all income levels.

A steering committee has been meeting since June 2007 and will make its report on a name (Coalition for Equitable Community Development) structure, and membership of the new, proposed organization. This organization is the outcome of the April 2006 and May 2007 housing forums. Come and hear the report and how you can join in this effort. Questions? OWL has been represented on the steering committee by **Allison Hartman, Lorie Rosenblum, and Kennie James**. Other community members and the University of Chicago have also participated.

The Racial Justice Task Force of our church was a sponsor of the housing forums.

## The First Unitarian Men's Group

By Joseph Harrington

We met on October 8th in the RE Resource Room and here are some of the ideas we came up with for the church year:

- Identify a topic and speaker for a future First Forum
- Plan and execute the First U service on Sunday, June 15, 2008 (Father's Day)
- Begin a project to chronicle the history of noteworthy African Americans who were members of First U (**Finley Campbell** will take the lead and **Jim Proctor** offered support with printing)
- Discuss establishing a 'Men's Care Group' that would be available to visit and provide assistance ill and or infirmed male members of First U
- It is still our plan to get together at **Winston Kennedy's** on November 19th for a discussion of the book "*Freethinking Mystics with Hands*"
- We discussed getting together to watch a football game on a Sunday in lieu of a meeting in December. **Andy Greenlee** has offered to host us. We also agreed to use this activity as a way to recruit new members. The Bears are scheduled and they will be playing the Giants on

Sunday, December 2nd at 3:15 p.m.

So, all men, age 18 and above are invited to attend our activities. For more information, call **Joe Harrington**

## Peace Action Task Force Report

By Christen Morrow, chair

We met on October 10, to discuss three key items: the upcoming October 27th Midwest Regional Anti-War Rally, the need to increase our members, and the need for more educational activities about the nature of the US/Iraqi War. Out of this came the following actions: a resolution from the First U Board of Trustees designating the church's participants in the march as official delegates from the church. This was submitted to the Board by Trustee **Ellen LaRue** and was passed. This was announced by **Rev. Nina Grey** as a part of her homily on Sunday, October 21st. Next, we showed a segment of the powerful video "Why We Fight" which explores the full implications of President Dwight D. Eisenhower's warning of a military industrial complex. Logistics were also worked out for the march. For more information, call Christen. Our next meeting is at 7:00 pm in the RE Resource Room on November 14, 2007.

## Charlotte Lackner Anti-Racism Committee (CLARC)

By Joanne Kent Co-Chair

First, we are once more inviting people to attend the Chicago Sinfonietta Orchestra's concert at Orchestra Hall on Monday, October 29th at 7:00 pm. Tickets are available at the box office, beginning at \$25.00. The featured works include Beethoven's Fifth Symphony and some contemporary works. Next, two proposals endorsed by the Committee have been submitted to the Program Committee of the UUA General Assembly organizing committee. One deals with building multiracial unity in predominantly all white congregations and the other with the anti-racist history of the First Unitarian Church of Chicago. The CLARC banner has been officially presented and will be publicly displayed along with other banners reflecting our human diversity. Our next meeting will be on Sunday, October 28 in the RE Resource Room at 1:00 pm.

## Racial Justice Task Force Report

By Allan Lindrup

The Racial Justice Task Force met on Oct. 25. Highlights from that meeting are as follows:

This year's version of the Nature of Racism course, titled "Has Anything Changed: The Civil Rights and Related Movements 1906 to 1968", drew six participants to its opening session on October 4, including two new-comers to the church. Since then the flyer advertising the course has been sent to local congregations and seminaries for posting, plus there has been several press releases. Consequently, more of the broader community may join the course, starting with its Nov. 1 session on "The origins of legal segregation and the rise of the NAACP".

Now that First Unitarian has renewed its permit to host free public showing of movies, we will be able to advertise our series of movies, that focus on racism and/or multi-racial unity, to the broader community. The first movie that we will show, with advertising to the broader community, will be "Confederate State of America", a very well made docudrama about what might have transpired if the Confederate States had won the Civil War and taken over the whole of what is now the United States. Both of our Co-Chairs highly recommend it. The most likely date for its showing is Friday evening, Dec. 7, though that date has not been finalized.

On the criminal justice front we noted the legal efforts by roughly two dozen of Chicago's Aldermen to uncover the names of those 600+ Chicago police officers who have had ten or more accusations of abuse filed against them by Chicago citizens. One of our members is investigating the reasons behind Al Sharpton's decision to get involved with the Chicago criminal justice scene.

We worked on further refining the design and content for the tee shirts we will be ordering in November, designed to advertise our task force, this church, and multi-racial unity.

The next meeting of this task force was set for Thursday evening, Nov. 29, one week after Thanksgiving.

Addendum by Finley Campbell: The RJT continued its informal film series highlighting multiracial unity by showing the video, "The Painted Veil," on Friday, October 19. This movie dealt with a white couple experiencing domestic problems in the contexts of pre-communist China. The point of interest for us was how they moved from paternalistic colonialists to

multiracial unity.

## UU Christian Group

By Phiefer Browne

At our October meeting, Rev. Neil Gerdes gave a synopsis of his First Forum presentation in September on being both a Unitarian Universalist and a Catholic. Finley Campbell continued leadership of a discussion on the book of GENESIS, especially the story of Cain and Abel. The group discussed how Jesus might have responded to Cain's murder of his brother. In addition they discussed the character of God in the passage and their own definitions of sin.

Addendum from Finley Campbell: The first session of the Adult RE course called, The Bible as Theological Docu-fiction will be postponed to the third Sunday, November 18 at 9:00 am in VOV. Please make this change on your calendar. First U Christian Group members **Rev. Viola Moore and Finley C. Campbell** presided over a farewell ritual for **Polly McCoo** at her bedside in collaboration with **Lia McCoo**. It was a moving ceremony.

A framed original poster of "The Land of Make Believe" by Jaro Hess from the collection of **Carrie L. Hedges** will be in an exhibit at the Field Museum. Maps: Finding Our Place in the World will run from November 2, 2007 through January 27, 2008. The poster will introduce the section of the exhibit featuring maps of the imagination.

## Guest at your Table

Once again we will distribute Guest at your Table boxes during our Thanksgiving Service for the important work of the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee. Individuals and families put money into the box at every meal between Thanksgiving time and the December holidays and we collect the boxes in early January and send them to the UUSC. Please take a Guest at your Table box and support the Service Committee

## Activities Sponsored by the Adult Religious Education Program

The Adult Religious Education Program is sponsoring the following new activities:

**Women Learning Together: From Generation to Generation.** Facilitators: **Rev. Dr. Nina Grey and Lorie Rosenblum** LCSW. This group, which meets once a month from October through May, has 16 participants and is now closed to newcomers.

### The Bible as Theological Docu-Fiction

Leader: **Finley Campbell**, co-leader of the UU Christian Group

Meeting time and day: 9 to 9:50 a.m.; First Sundays, November 2007 through April 2008. Meeting place: VOV Gallery. This course examines the book of Matthew as a mixture of theological dogma and insights, documentary history, and fictional shaping. All students should have their own bibles. The course leader will be using the Revised Standard Version.

### A Journey with the World Religions

Facilitators: **Rev. Dr. Nina Grey and Sarah Gettie-Burks Anderson**

Meeting time and day: 7 to 9 p.m.; Second Sundays, October 2007 through May 2008. Meeting place: The R.E. Resource Room. This course focuses on a different religion at each session, drawing on the writings of practitioners of Judaism, Christianity, Islam, Humanism, Hinduism, Buddhism, Taoism, and earth-based religions. In October, the group studied Judaism; in November it will study Christianity. The course closes to newcomers after the November session.

An updated Adult Religious Education brochure is available at the welcome table in Hull Chapel during the social hour. This brochure describes all church adult religious education activities, some not sponsored by the Adult Religious Education Program.

Also each order of service contains an insert on The One and the Many: The Spiritual Pluralism Project. This project consists of four groups: the UU Christian Group, the UU Buddhist Group, the UU Humanist Group, and the UU Earth-based Spirituality Group.

## Chicago Children's Choir Corner

By Carrie L. Hedges, Church Representative

Come to an Open Rehearsal of the Hyde Park Neighborhood Choir on Thursday, November 15 at 5:30 p.m. at the Church. See how the artistry and stewardship of the Chicago Children's Choir flourishes in the Neighborhood Choirs.

The Concert Choir and the Hyde Park Neighborhood Choir will perform at the annual ecumenical service at Rockefeller Memorial Chapel on Thanksgiving Day, Thursday, November 22 at 11 a.m.

Come spend a winter's day with the Concert Choir for the annual Songs of the Season, featuring holiday favorites and songs from around the world on Sunday, December 9 at 3:00 p.m. at the Harris Theater for Music and Dance. For tickets (\$15-55), call 312-334-7777 or visit [www.harristheaterchicago.org](http://www.harristheaterchicago.org).

Enjoy all seven of the Neighborhood Choirs as they celebrate the winter season through song. This multi-cultural celebration concludes with a sing-along that will help warm up the holidays for you and your family. Two performances on Saturday, December 15 at 6:30 p.m., and Sunday, December 16 at 6:30 p.m. at Whitney M. Young Magnet High School. For tickets, call 312-849-8300 or visit [www.ticketweb.com](http://www.ticketweb.com).

At its September meeting, the Board of Directors of the Chicago Children's Choir appointed **Helen S. Eaton** as Executive Director of the Choir. Helen has an impressive background in teaching and performance and served as Dean of Programs (2002 to the present) at the Merit School of Music. Helen will be succeeding **Christina Deaton DeMarea**, who has led the Choir for the past three years.

## Annual Meeting of the Unitarian Universalists for Social Justice

The meeting will be held on Sunday, December 2, at North Shore Unitarian Church, 2100 Half Day Rd., Deerfield, IL., beginning at 2:00 p.m. The Peace Task Force will present a workshop entitled "Local Churches Wage Peace."

# A Month of Sundays

Worship at 10:00 a.m.

## November 4

Rev. Dr. Nina D. Grey  
Rev. Dr. Lee Barker

### The School, the Church and the Community: Shaping A Faith

We know that the past helps to shape the future, and our ancestors have given us gifts that abide for the living of our days. While the young people are with us we will celebrate All Souls Day and the Day of the Dead. We will have a ritual for all ages to honor the ancestors, especially those who have been our teachers and guides. Please bring an object or picture representing one has gone before, one who taught you an important life lesson that guides the future.

And in this service Dr. Lee Barker, president of Meadville Lombard Theological School, and I will join together in imagining a future for our faith. We will speak of education for a relevant faith that takes time seriously and is responsive to the needs of the world. We will speak of a contextual vision in which seminary, church and community interact creatively. We will speak of a faith that helps shape the "dawning future."

## November 11

Rev. Dr. Nina D. Grey

### Witnessing: A Veterans Day Service

This fall many of us have seen Ken Burn's documentary, War. The central figures in that film shared the truth about the war as they experienced it and helped to break a long relative silence about the realities of the Second World War. Today we will honor those men and women veterans who have served our country then and at other times and Rev. Grey will reflect on the power of witnessing to help us turn away from war.

## November 18

Rev. Dr. Nina D. Grey  
Erica Ward  
And Jim Scott

### Thanks be for These! A Multigenerational Celebration of Thanksgiving

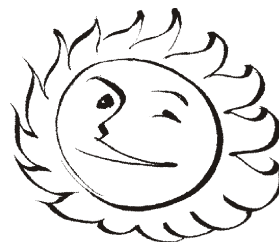
We are delighted to welcome Jim Scott, Unitarian Universalist troubadour, back to our congregation. Some of Jim's compositions are found in our hymnal, and this Sunday Jim will bring us original pieces and more traditional songs celebrating the season, and our gratitude for the harvest, the bounty of the earth. We will share the bread of life and distribute Guest at Your Table boxes for the support of the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee. Join us!

## November 25

### Advent

Rev. Viola Moore  
Finley Campbell

This service, presented by the UU Christian Group of the Spiritual Pluralism Project, will introduce the season of Advent (generally a month before Christmas). Homilies will be delivered by church members Rev. Viola Moore, a UU minister, and Finley Campbell, co-leader of the UU Christian Group and member of the UU Christian Fellowship. They will explore the idea that the "advent" (Latin for coming or arrival) of Jesus may represent a time of joy and the expectation of good things for us all.



**First Unitarian Society  
5650 S. Woodlawn Ave.  
Chicago IL 60637**

**November 2007**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 7:00 Worship & Music Comm.	2	3
4 10 a.m. Worship, School, Church & Community 11:30 First Forum	5	6 7:00 Program Council	7 5:30 Executive Comm.	8	9 7:30 pm Rev. Forrest Churrch Speech	10
11 10 a.m. Worship. Veteran's Day 11:30 First Forum	12	13 6:00 pm Mgmt Consulting TF	14 7:00 Peace Action TF	15 7:00 Trustees	16	17 6 p.m. Thanksgiving Seder
18 10 a.m. Worship. Thanksgiving 11:30 First Forum	19	20	21	22 Thanksgiving Day	23	24
25 10 a.m. Worship. Advent	26	27	28	29 7:00 pm Racial Justice TF 7:00 pm Comm-unications Com	30	

EVERY SUNDAY

9:00 Choir  
9:30 Nursery  
10:00 Worship  
10:15 RE Classes  
11:15 Social Hour

EVERY MONDAY

8:45 am Aerobics  
3:15 Ballet School

EVERY TUESDAY

8:45 Aerobics  
4:00 Ballet School  
4:00 Chi. Childrens Choir  
7:00 Yoga

WEDNESDAY

8:45 Aerobics  
3:45 Ballet School  
5:15 Meadville-Lombard Vespers  
7:15 Alateen  
7:30 Choir  
7:30 Tai Chi  
8:00 Alanon

THURSDAY

8:45 Aerobics  
3:15 Ballet School  
4:00 Chi Childens Choir  
5:45 Overeaters Anon.  
6:00 Affinity  
6:30 Sea Scouts

EVERY FRIDAY

8:45 Aerobics

SATURDAY

9:00 Ballet School