

UUCRV NEWS

Published by and for the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Rock Valley
P.O. Box 256, Rockton, IL, 61072 Phone number: 1-815-624-4094
Visit us at www.uucrv.org



June, 2017

Monthly Schedule

Services begin at 10:30 a.m. at the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Rock Valley, 329 School Street, Rockton, IL 61079. Child care provided. We welcome visitors, and invite you to coffee hour afterwards for snacks and chat.

June 4 – Rev. Sara Goodman - "Exuberance, Ecstasism and Joy": Is it possible to be too happy?

June 11 – *Guest Speaker Misha Sanders* "That Time the Rabbi Spiked the Punch" Did Jesus choose the theme of his first miracle to show everyone how much value he placed on having a good party? Maybe it was deeper than that. Maybe not. Let's have some fun talking about it!"

June 18 – Rev. Sara Goodman - "A Joyous Birthright": We are born with a spark of joy in our souls, how is nurtured or snuffed by growing up. A Reflection on Father's Day.

June 25 – Susan Busker "Beloved Community" part two; Congregational Meeting

July 2 – **NO SERVICE!**

July 9 – *Dodi Corcoran* will do an introduction to Family Constellations: Healing the Family Soul, changing family dynamics on a knowing field.

July 16 – Brock and Grant Heckel team up to present a special history program.

July 23 – Pete Busker will speak on honey bees. (The title of his talk is yet to be decided upon.)



As we contemplate what it means to be a people of Joy, I give you a story, by Rev. Victoria Stafford: "I saw a little girl dressed in a fabulous outfit. She was in preschool, and her clothes were matched only by the radiance with which she wore them – a dress tie dyed in bright orange, hot pink, and electric yellow, with socks to match, pink suede sandals, and on her knee, as she revealed to me demurely by lifting the hem of her skirt, a Band-Aid in the brightest bright blue. "We were out of purple ones," she explained with mild regret. The child was shining, shining, I admired her dress and her joy and she said, "Well, I wanted to wear my favorite outfit because we were having church today, and (in case I somehow failed to guess it) this is my favorite outfit." She gave her dress a little flip and smoothed her bunched bodice. She straightened her short legs so the sandals stuck straight out. She ratcheted up those fiery socks and looked me in the eye. I thanked her humbly for her example, and wholeheartedly meant it."

For me and so many other people, joy was my default setting when I was young, with laughter quick to pour out of my mouth. Over the years I've become more sedate and reserved. But really, I am still that little girl who wears her favorite outfit, her favorite brightly colored dress to church. What do you do to express joy and appreciation in your life?

Rev. Sara Goodman

UUCRV Care and Concern – The purpose of Care and Concern is to assist UUCRV in the ministry to one another. Care and Concern is part of the Membership Committee. A care request needs to be something that is possible for UUCRV members to do—like providing food, rides to medical appointments, running errands, visiting members who are house bound, in the hospital or rehab, etc.

If you or another UUCRV member needs help from UUCRV Care and Concern, please contact Wendy Edgington (815-865-5364) or Dianna Kevari (608-365-2343). Please contact them if you know one of our members is ill, has lost a loved one, or is experiencing a difficult time. They would rather hear the news twice than not at all. Remember that Wendy and Dianna are assisting our church in its ministry to one another.

Green Corner

A field of onions. That is mostly what is being grown this year in our pantry garden. Why, you ask, are we growing so many onions? Two reasons: We don't have enough people able to pick beans (our former main crop) and onions are a crop desired by most of the Caritas clients. In addition, onions are mostly ignored by the local wildlife, so covering the garden with nets is not necessary.

Approximately 1000 onions have been planted. That would translate to about 500-600 pounds of onions. That onions are very easy to harvest is another big plus.

New to the garden this year will be a row of sweet potatoes. According to what I read, we can expect a yield of between 150-200 sweet potatoes from one row. An added bonus is that sweet potatoes are much more nutritious than white potatoes.

Our gardeners this year have planted the onions, laid the soaker hoses and laid mulch next to the crops to reduce evaporation. So far, things are looking good. We give thanks to our intrepid crew: Tricia, Vesta, Mariah, Malia, Erin, Calvin, Connie, Russ, Brock, Nina and Ray. Folks, that's over 25% of our congregation! Congratulations. Ray Herzer

Religious Education

Our sessions on the 7 Principles of UU will conclude with June classes.

We have a wonderful group of Sunday Morning Kids who gather each week to share lives and lessons. Just as the school year comes to an end, so does our RE program.

An award will be given to the student(s) having the best attendance during the 2016-2017 year. We have worked hard to get regular attendance and are grateful to the kids for their faithfulness in learning.

We especially want to thank all who participated in teaching the classes this year. We had a core group of teachers and then had additional contributors to enhance our learning. We enjoyed participating in 5th Sundays on three occasions and look forward to the ongoing experience of learning to be leaders in our congregation. Taking these little steps is pretty important in our growth and development as future members of UUCRV.

We wish all of our kids and teachers a refreshing summer and look forward to renewed vitality in September. Judy Petree

Spirit Meeting

The June spirit group meeting is Thursday June 8th at 1 pm. We will discuss "What does it mean to be a people of joy?"

Remember that we will be having new packets next year from the Touchstone website.

If you would like to donate towards its cost, please write a check to the church with Touchstone on the memo line. Thank you. Connie Matusiak

Ministerial Committee

Your Ministerial Committee is in the process of interviewing applicants who responded to our call for a half-time minister for the 2017-2018 church year. The members of this committee are: Pete Busker, Jerry Paulson, Laurel Burke, Linda Brefeld, Dianna Kevari. We are encouraged that we are going to find the right minister to fill our needs. Dianna Kevari

Exploring Unitarian Universalism

June 4th

Reverend Sara Goodman and members from the Membership Committee will welcome guests who are interested in learning more about UUA and UUCRV. All those who are interested are encouraged to attend. The meeting provides a good opportunity to learn information and have your questions discussed. A light lunch will be provided. If you are unable to attend, but are interested in the information being presented, please contact Nina Herzer at church, or by email (herz57@frontier.com), or phone (815-624-2283.) If you just have questions about the meeting, Nina is still the contact person.

Fall Retreat for UU Women

October 13-15 Fall Retreat at DeKoven Center in Racine Wisconsin

Be prepared to chant and be enchanted with special guest Kellianna!



Kellianna is an American pagan singer and songwriter internationally renowned for her powerful performance of song and chant inspired by myth, magic, sacred places, and ancient times. With guitar and vocals, she brings to life the stories and sagas of the Gods and Goddesses. With primal frame drumming and soaring vocal chants, she honors the Earth and the Ancestors.

Since 2003, she has performed her music in 10 countries on 3 continents, with regular visits to Canada, the United Kingdom, Western Europe, and Australia.

More information about the retreat may be found at <http://www.uuwomensconnection.org> .

June Birthdays

8 – Laurel Burke

19 – Susan Busker

10 – Beth Ingle

30 – Betsy Green

Caritas

UUCRV is collecting hair products for Caritas during the month of June. Please donate the following items to Caritas: shampoo, conditioner, baby and children's shampoo. Dianna will place a basket on the table under the RE bulletin board for your donations. Dianna suggested checking the Dollar Store for these items because you may find them more reasonably priced there. Dianna will take the products to Caritas after the last Sunday in June.

Officers for 2016 - 17



President	Denny Broderick	608-751-0630
Vice-President	Susan Busker	815-624-2833
Secretary	Paulette Lucas	815-601-3225
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