

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



July, 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.

Sunday, July 2 - *NO CHURCH SERVICE!!!*

Sunday, July 9 - Guest speaker **Dodie Corcoran** will do an introduction to Family Constellations: *"Healing the Family Soul, changing family dynamics on a knowing field."*

Sunday, July 16 - Brock & Grant Heckel team up to present a special history program.

Sunday, July 23 - Pete Busker *"Let's Talk Honeybees"*

Sunday, July 30 - Jerry Paulson *"Creation and Christianity"*. Jerry invites attendees to share their "Oh, my God!" experiences in nature.

Sunday, August 6 - Guest Speaker **Connie Matusiak** The August 6th service will honor teachers and learning.

Please contact Connie Matusiak if there is a teacher who made a difference in your life that you would tell us about that morning in 3-5 minutes.

Sunday, August 13 - TBD

Sunday, August 20 - Campfire sing along with Denny & Wendy

Sunday, August 27 - Lynda Johnson *"Exploring Our Values" ****

*** Please come August 27 - I will not be doing a sermon or a lecture - rather, we will be exploring our "values" in a fun, interactive activity. This is for young people (kids), too! I will be giving all who enter a cutout Iceberg on cardstock. I think everyone knows that an iceberg is a huge mountain of ice, of which only 10% is above the ocean water, and all can see it. The

remaining 90% is below water, and no one can see it – which is why the huge Titanic sank, not seeing all that was below the water.

As people, we are somewhat like icebergs, because when anyone see us, or meets us, or even gets to know us as friends – mostly what everyone sees is that 10% above water. To take the analogy further, that-which-people-can't-see is the other 90% - which is where our "values" are! We'll be exploring that part – so bring your ideas.

I began thinking about "values" during the national election. And I've been extremely agitated by other people's "values", thinking, of course, that my "values" were the only ones anyone should have. Admit it, maybe you might have thought the same thing! So I began really thinking about "where did I get my values, and have any changed over the years?"

Gosh, I realized that I didn't like digging deeply into the origin of my "values" – I'd rather watch t.v., or read, or talk to friends, or eat or sleep! "Thinking deeply" is hard! What I discovered is that some values, I got from my parents – and, I'm ashamed to say, some of my other feelings about stuff, which I can't call "values", I also picked up from my parents, as early as I can remember. Lee says, you pick up your fear of snakes long before age 5, like age 1 ½, from a relative. I think we pick up a lot more than that!

I'll give one example of a "value", and where it came from, and how it evolved to the present. On the funny side, I'll give a couple of example of "other stuff" I picked up from my parents, and how I've changed for the better in more recent times. Yes, it is possible to change, even at 75 years.

YOUR ASSIGNMENT BEFORE AUGUST 27: Think about your values. Bring those thoughts and your sense of humor on August 27. Have a good summer! Lynda Johnson

Green Corner

Katydid-she did, she did. That is the call of the Katydid insect, a brilliant green member of the cricket family. But what exactly did Katydid did - er, do?

Well, we probably won't ever know because there are too few Katydids left to tell the tale. It's not only Katydids that are disappearing, but almost all insect species worldwide. We hear about the Monarchs and honeybees, and most of us know the firefly population is severely diminished. Maybe most of us won't miss Japanese beetles or earwigs, but we can't select a few favored species to save and ignore the general trend.

Insect populations have decreased by almost half in the last 35 years. Anyone with a porch light can make their own observation about insect populations.

So what is the cause? Let's trot out the usual suspects. Habitat loss due to urbanization, and monoculture cropping with its dependence on chemical fertilizers and weed controls (especially those classed as neonicotinoids).

Many counties are adopting roadside mowing policies to mow only when it is necessary to prevent obstructed vision, and reducing or eliminating chemical weed controls. Landscaping upon completion of road construction projects often uses prairie plants instead of just grass (a good example is the plantings along Route 2 from Rockton to Loves Park). And, of course, we can also expand our plantings of native flowering plants - and quit buying those houses with 2.5 acres of lawn!

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.

July Birthdays

10th – Charlie Jenski
Vincent Jenski



Religious Education

Saoirse Burke is the recipient of the best attendance award for Sunday Morning Kids attendance this year.
Judy Petree

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> .





Officers for 2017 - 18

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