

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



April, 2017

Monthly Schedule

April services all 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.

April 2 – Rev. Sara Goodman – “The Rebirth of Spring”. The earth is once again transforming herself from Winter to Spring; how do we transform ourselves.

12:00 Noon – Worship Meeting.

April 9 – (Speaker to be announced)

April 16 – Rev. Sara Goodman – “The Easter Bunny, And Other Odd Mashups”. We Celebrate Easter, a Christian holiday, by eating chocolate eggs brought to us by bunnies. These and other odd mashups, explained.

April 23 – Andra Hawkins-Kamper, will preach. She is a student at Meadville Lombard Theological Seminary in Chicago.

12:00 Noon – Membership meeting.

12:00 Noon – Board Meeting

April 30 - Stewardship Sunday



April Newsletter – Transformation

As I sit here waiting for the last vestiges of this cold to disappear into good health again, I realize that transformation never happens as quickly as we would like. I have been dragging around the symptoms of this cold since the middle of March, and all I want to do is feel better. And I do feel better, just not all the way better, yet. That's the thing – transformation is as much about waiting as it is the glory of the change.

I marvel at the speed of healing of babies. Jamie, as a newborn would cut his face with his fingernail and hours later it would be healed up. I cut myself with my own fingernail and it takes at least a day to heal.

In February, I cut my finger with a bread knife. The wound started to heal quickly, but I must have nicked a nerve because I lost sensation in the skin around the cut. The doctor said that it would take a while to get the feeling back. More than a month later I still don't have the feeling back. The transformation from cut to scar has been slow, and the feeling returning is even slower. It's hard to recognize the extent of the transformation because I haven't reached a new normal.

Many folks in our congregation have had surgeries lately. This is a major transformation for someone. After a major surgery, all we want is to feel transformed, to be a new, better version of ourselves. But it can take weeks or months, even sometimes years to get past the challenges that come with healing. In the end, though, we are better off. We've healed the injury or illness, and we can be ourselves, find a new normal again. The transformation is complete.

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). Wendy and Dianna send cards to members as needed. 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

Though the bad environmental news seems to be outweighing the good news, here are a few tidbits of good news:

Since 2010, the efforts to find the wild relatives of our common food crops has intensified, As these plants, may hold the key to new varieties that can withstand the challenges of climate Change. Seeds from these plants are sent for storage and experimentation to seed repositories In Fort Collins, Colorado and the Global Seed Vault on the Norwegian island of Svalbard.

Texas hits a new record for wind electricity generation – 45% of total electricity demand at this Point. Folks, this is Rick Perry's state!

China promises to ban all sales of ivory by the end of the year.

Global CO2 emissions remained flat for the third year in a row.

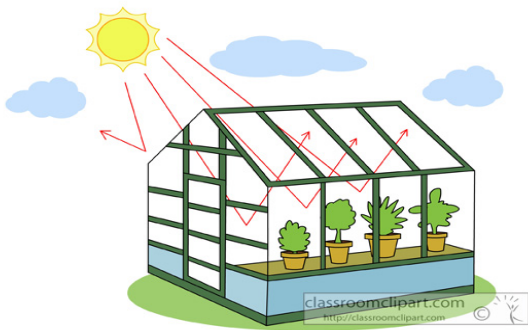
Concentrations of toxic mercury in Bluefin tuna are declining, apparently because so many Coal-fired power plants have closed.

New for diehard young environmentalists – a DIY kit that allows you to build your own bamboo-framed bike for a mere \$800. Expert testers say this bike is the real deal.

I read (I forgot where) that a person in southeast Asia was caught trying to board a plane with a suitcase of rhino horns. Estimated value was over four million dollars. Rhino horns are valued as an aphrodisiac. I guess rhinos need the aphrodisiac to make up for the general unattractiveness of potential mates.

Ray Herzer

SPIRIT MEETING – The Spirit Group will meet on Thurs., April 6, at 1 p.m. to discuss “What does it mean to be a Community of Transformation?”



APRIL

BIRTHDAYS

Pete Busker - 4- 23

Vesta Graham – 4-24



OUR CHURCH will again be part of the Hwy 75 rummage sale this June. As you do your spring cleaning, set some gently used items aside with this in mind. No clothing unless you hear differently in the next newsletter.

Officers for 2016 - 17

President	Denny Broderick	608-751-0630
Vice-President	Susan Busker	815-624-2833
Secretary	Paulette Lucas	815-601-3225
Treasurer	Cher Zimmerman	608-365-2343

HELLO ALL UUCRV MEMBERS - The members of your ministerial search committee consists of Pete Busker, Linda Brefeld, Jerry Paulson, Laurel Burke, Dianna Kevari. It's been a while since you have heard from us so I thought I would give you an update. Weave finished all our packets and all our information is posted on



the UUA site for perspective ministers looking for a part-time minister position. So now we are waiting for the Right person to respond to our desire to have a half-time minister. Then we will be able to start our interviewing process and finish the process and then bring them to the congregation.

Thank you, Dianna

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