



UUCRV NEWS – September 2026

Published by and for the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Rock Valley
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THE PREZ SEZ:

Hi All!

We're now on the cusp of fall. While temperatures still are warming up into the middle 80s, the evenings are drifting cooler into 50s–low 60s. Even the air smells different, the light is changing.

Some concrete items were accomplished like the refurbishing of the Clavinova, the purchase and installing of two window A.C. units that are doing nicely, a worthy investment. A Bring a Guest for August 30th Open Read is scheduled and Faith Formations continue to organize and present wonderful services. New business on the horizon: a congregational survey was generated and distributed and now is awaiting gathering up those surveys from you all! We want to hear from you, your feedback, your ideas and even, perhaps some of you joining a committee or two. We can also use some help planning and working on the Christmas bake sale/craft sale.

Another interesting idea was having a Strategic Planning retreat/workshop to work on a 3 to 5 year plan to be scheduled next year. A follow-up to that is we will be connecting with QuianaDenae Perkins of the UUA MidAmerica Region Congregational Life Staff over Zoom to have a conversation about a possible church retreat, goals and vision for our small but mighty *group*. More will be forthcoming. By the way, UUCRV Committees can always use some new members too. Nudge, nudge.

The Beloit Rock the Pride event was a fun event with thanks going to Wendy, Cher, Dianna, Amanda, Jerry, Trish and moi organizing the crafts, displays, setting up, tearing down, circulating to make connections. The safety pins/beads crafts were a big hit! It was a good turn out too!

Looking forward to Water Communion on the first Sunday in September!

As always, together we're gonna make it! Drop me an email!

Love to All, Jane



HYMN OF THE MONTH

Joy Came Back by Heather Pierson. A peppy, jazzy tune that is upbeat for our return in September from summer journeys. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0KWVg6gGmeM>

If you would like to sing with the group, please contact Jane. ALL ARE WELCOME!!!

UUCRV ACTIVITIES IN SEPTEMBER 2026

COMMITTEE MEETINGS:

Faith Formation – 9/1, 10:30 am (Zoom)

Board Meeting – 9/11 12:30 pm (Zoom)

Membership Meetings are the 4th **Wednesday** of each month.

UPCOMING WORSHIP SERVICES

WORSHIP SERVICES ARE MULTIPLATFORM INCLUDING ON ZOOM (The ZOOM link is in the "Service Information" email sent to members & friend prior to the service. Request service information by emailing uucrockvalley@gmail.com)

September 6 - Water Ceremony

September 13 - The Ministry of Worms (UUA Sermon of the month)

September 20 - Autumnal Equinox

September 27 - The Importance of Music

NATIONAL & CULTURAL HOLIDAYS

(thank you Susan Busker)

National & Cultural

- [Hispanic Heritage Month](#) (Sept. 15 - Oct. 15)
- Suicide Prevention Month, World Suicide Prevention Day is Sept. 10
- [Labor Day](#) – Sept. 7, 2026 (*first Monday)
- International Literacy Day - Sept. 08
- [9-11 Remembrance](#) - Sept. 11
- [International Peace Day](#) Sept. 21 (more [here](#))
- [World Gratitude Day](#) - Sept. 21
- [Bisexual Pride Day](#), CBD, Bisexual Pride, and Bi Visibility Day - Sept. 23
- [Bisexual Awareness Week](#) - Week of September 23 (more [here](#))

For Fun and On the Fringe

- [Johnny Appleseed Day](#) - Sept. 26
- [Talk Like a Pirate Day](#) - Sept. 19
- [Hobbit Day](#) - Sept. 22

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

1- *Trica Graham*

4 - *Denny Broderick*

7 - *Gloria Shafer*

8 - *Linda Brefeld*

27 - *Phil Dierstein*

27 - *Kirsten Fisher*

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

September 19 – Celebration of Life for Connie Matusiak at UUCRV

UUCRV Members are invited to a PRIDE SERVICE - OCTOBER 31, 2026

Trinity Episcopal Church

[409 East Court St.](#)

[Janesville, WI 53545](#)

Time-TBA

(Cher Zimmerman, Rev. Richelle Pearson, Paulette Lucas)

On Sunday, August 23, the Rev. Richelle Pearson was our guest speaker. They shared a theme of celebration of diversity pride, inclusivity and unity of creation. They also shared some of their personal poetry, too.



If you would like to view a the recording of the service, please email the the church at:
uucrockvalley@gmail.com

Cher & Paulette met Rev. Pearson at their Yoga Class! Thank you Cher & Paulette.

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Our Vision: *We envision Beloved Community where all are welcome.*

Our Mission: *The mission of this congregation is to create community, celebrate worship, seek justice and truth and live guided by love.*

Our Unitarian Universalist Values



Graphic attributed to the artist Tanya Webster
(chalicedays.org)

2026-2027 OFFICERS

President: Jane Viemeister

Vice-President: Barbara Fett-Timmer

Secretary: Denny Broderick

Treasurer: Carol Klager

Trustee: Heather Hansen

Members are welcome at all UUCRV Board and Committee meetings. Check the calendar in this newsletter for meeting times. If you have questions or comments to share, contact board members or the appropriate committee chair.

Pastoral Care Team

- ✦ *Jerry Paulson*
- ✦ *Judy Pickle*

SHARE THE PLATE THIS QUARTER

*This quarter, July through September, we are sharing 50% of additional donations made in the plate or by mail (beyond your pledge) with **to be determined**.*

Final thoughts...

August invites us to pause. The long light, warm evenings, gardens, and gatherings can create room to notice what has sustained us—and what still calls for our attention. Summer reflection is not an escape from the world; it can be a way of returning to it with clearer eyes and renewed hearts.

As Unitarian Universalists, we understand justice as faith put into action: breaking down divisions, honoring the interconnectedness of life, and working alongside those most affected by injustice. Our reflection matters most when it helps us ask honest questions. Where have we grown too comfortable? Whose voices have we not heard? What small, faithful act can we take next?

May summer restore us for the work ahead. Let us carry gratitude into courage and walk together toward justice, one compassionate step at a time.