UUCRV NEWS – November 2026

Published by and for the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Rock Valley

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Hi All!

Oh yes, we are entering into that timeless land of busy celebrations of Harvest and impending Holiday Season of gifting. Time will be accelerating as we make lists and check boxes, breathing along the way. BUT FIRST: we vote November 3rd, light sage and our candles, pray to the gods and goddesses to support our efforts for a better world. Help friends and neighbors get to the polls too!

Our Faith Formations Committee has been diligently creating and organizing a progression of wonderful, informative, uplifting services and continuing to anthem the last Sunday of November, and introducing another hymn of the month.

Fund Raising met in October and came up with some exciting ideas to create and connect with communities in our state line area starting with a Holiday Sing-A-Long in December with live music, cookies and punch and gift baskets to bid on. (See article)

Denny Broderick did a fine job putting together and updating our Members & Friends Directory (copies on the hallway table). Thank-you Denny!!

The Board continues to keep on top of what is needed for our functioning in our physical space as well as supporting our Get Out The Vote through writing and addressing postcards. We also met with our Mid-America Regional UUA representative Rev. David Pyle on Zoom to get some perspective on a Spring UUCRV Retreat to create a clear(er) vision of who we are, who we want to be as a church and where we want to go. It was a very inspiring, thought provoking meeting.

Anyway, it looks like all is well with UUCRV with some decisions to be made about the physical needs of the building, directions in growing forward. As my mom's mother always said "Life's good if you don't weaken", a rather dour way of looking at life and yet has a grain of truth to it. Acknowledging our strength, resilience and courage, grounding ourselves in our values and community-- there is so much we can accomplish. We're gonna get there together!

In peace and love, Jane

NEWS FROM COMMITTEES & TEAMS

Finance - The committee will be meeting on zoom Wednesday, November 3, 1;30 pm.
PLEASE NOTE: Carol is currently in Wisconsin (Granny Nanny duty) awaiting the arrival of a new Granddaughter! Therefore the meeting may be canceled.
Membership - The committee thoroughly cleaned & organized the Fellowship Room & our new Kitchen, including the fridge, cabinets, cubbies & closet. We ask that you follow the instructions on the fridge before putting things in there. Also, please put all dirty dishes in one of the bins provided. These steps will help us help you. Thanks! Trish Alger
_ The Membership Committee meets on the 4th Wednesday of the month, 4pm.
Upcoming exceptions: November's meeting will be on the **18th**, 4pm.
December's meeting has been canceled.
We will be celebrating Halloween on November 1st this year. Continuing in our tradition, we encourage costumes. Also, we'll have our annual scary foods potluck. *Bring out your imagination on Nov.* 1!

Social Justice Team – The Kick Butt SJT, sent out *500 handwritten postcard*s reminding people to vote on Nov.3! A BG THANK YOU to all who helped! A special thank goes to Susan B. for ordering them and addressing all 500 cards. We may be small, but we are mighty!
In peace, Wendy E

Hymn of the Month

November Hymn of the Month "We'll Be Known By Our Love" Katie Grigg-Miller

When the winds around you blow, take my hand.
When the raging waters flow, I"ll help you to land,
And we'll go together into the great unknown
Shelter for each other, compassion as our home,
And we'll be known by our love. We'll be known by our love.

When you're fearful, when you're blue, don't despair.
When the world gives up on you, I'll be there,
And we'll go together into the great unknown.
Shelter for each other, compassion as our home,
And we'll be known by our love. We'll be known by our love.

We'll be known by our love. We'll be known by our love.

Katie Grigg-Miller (she/her), a composer and vocalist in Northeast Ohio, has served the Unitarian Universalist Church of Kent, OH since 2009 as guest vocalist, percussionist, pianist, composer, and interim Music Director. She has created many songs, videos, and choral pieces specifically for UU services. A classically trained soprano, she has appeared in local musicals, performs with the church's own Celtic Clan band, and hosts a community sing-along.

UPCOMING WORSHIP SERVICES

11/1 - *Samhain, All Souls, All Saints, and Remembrance Mashu*p: November 1st, Sunday is in the middle of all that, complete with costumes, scary food (edible) and a ritual of Remembrance of members, relatives, ancestors who have moved on, transitioned, joined the heavens. It is an opportunity to bring a meaningful photo or object for the altar, light a candle, put a pinch of salt in a bowl of water for our tears and speak briefly of their gifts to us who remain. Briefly. We all could wax eloquent--or not. It could simply be enough to say their name as we light a candle.

Remember we change back to Central Standard Time, "Fall back" an hour!

11/8 - *"A New Era of Action in Illinois"* Natasha Walker - What happens when 30+ congregations speak with one moral voice? We are delighted to welcome Natasha Walker, our new leader at the UU Advocacy Network of Illinois (UUANI), to the pulpit. Natasha brings a unique perspective to our movement, combining two decades of strategic work in Corporate America with a deep commitment to the interconnected web of life. This morning, she shares her vision for UUANI's three-pronged strategy of advocacy, activism, and resistance. Come hear why our daily actions are "inextricably braided into everything else" and how your engagement can help shape the future of our state.

Short Bio: Natasha Walker is the new Executive Director of the UU Advocacy Network of Illinois (UUANI). Her background in HR and global operations at Google and Disney, her experience at Black Lives of UU (BLUU) intersectional combined with her identity as a Black, single mother with neurodiverse children, gives her a unique perspective on UU social justice efforts.

11/15 – TBA

11/22 – *Stone Soup*

11/29 – *Advent, Open Read – Friends*



November Birthdays

1st – Paulette Lucas

8th – Judy Pickle

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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, October through December, we are sharing 50% of additional donations made in the plate or by mail (beyond your pledge) with Caritas located in Beloit, WI. Here are the key points of their community outreach:

Their Services

- *Food Pantry*
- *Diaper Bank*
- *Community Garden*
- *Birthday Bags*



UCRV Activities in November 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 "Samhain, All Souls, All Saints and Remembrance" **Paulette Lucas Birthday**	2	3 10:30, Zoom Faith Formation	4 1:30, Zoom Finance Committee	5	6	7
8 "A New Era of Action in Illinois" Natasha Walker UUANI **Judy Pickle Birthday**	9	10	11 Veteran's Day	12	13. 12:30, Zoom Board Meeting	14
15 TBA	16	17	18 4:30, zoom Membership	19	20	21
22 Stone Soup	23	24	25	26	27	28
29 Advent/Open read - Friends	24	25	26	27	28	

*** WORSHIP SERVICES ARE MULTIPLATFORM INCLUDING ON ZOOM worship services begin at 10:30 am (these are service topics)
(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)