



the Builder

Universalist Unitarian
Church of Peoria

a voice of progressive religious tradition since 1843

September Issue #9

September 3, 2025

On the Journey

*You are in the story of the world.
You are the world coming to know itself.
May you trust that all you will ever say or do
Belongs in the story of the world.*

~ from Ean Huntington Behr

This congregation, like most Unitarian Universalist communities, begins its year at the end of summer and the start of fall. We respond to the ebb and flow of human life for much of our liturgical calendar. This relationship is not a surprise, given our theological commitment to focusing on the life we know we have now and the glories and obligations that come with being human. Summer is often a time of experimentation, living in the moment, paying attention to what matters most. Many of us enjoy a break from the usual routine and what can be learned from a different perspective. In my summer adventure, I find ways to meet new people, reconnect with friends and colleagues, and go to new places. In some ways, I still feel new to Peoria and Central Illinois, even as we start our sixth year together. And then, we return in the fall for our first services in September. You bring your stories. I will bring mine. Together, we discover these relationships again. We meet visitors for the first time. We welcome children and remark on how much they have grown and how they are exploring who they are. Please join us for our Ingathering Water Communion on September 7. So much has changed since I started with this congregation in 2020. And so much remains true. I look forward to seeing you soon.

In October, we get to mark the 20th anniversary of being in this building. On October 23, 2005, the members and friends honored the formal start of making a home in this modern structure and being stewards of the 14 acres of land. We will celebrate this anniversary during the service on October 19. If you would like to be on the small team that will create the service and gather information about the story of how this congregation made a powerful choice to be here, please see me. I hope to include voices of the people who were part of the plans and part of the decisions. I also welcome thoughts from people who have been with the congregation through many years and many changes. Be sure to attend the service on October 19 and bring friends and folks who have been part of the congregation in the past. This congregation has been in the process of being and becoming since 1843. Let us cherish the strength and adaptability of this beloved community.

*Bowing to the Light Within,
Reverend Jennifer*

Sunday Services

Sunday, September 7, 10:30am
**"Ingathering Water Communion:
Come, You Longing, Thirsty Souls"**
Reverend Jennifer Innis

This Ingathering marks the start of the church year. We offer our commitments to one another and celebrate being part of community that is called to create more love, freedom, growth, and wholeness in the world. Bring a small portion of water from your summer journeys to add to our common bowl during service. After worship, all are invited to a potluck and to tie dye new church t-shirts. Bring a dish to share and a spirit of fun.

Sunday, September 14, 10:30am
"Belonging"
Reverend Jennifer Innis

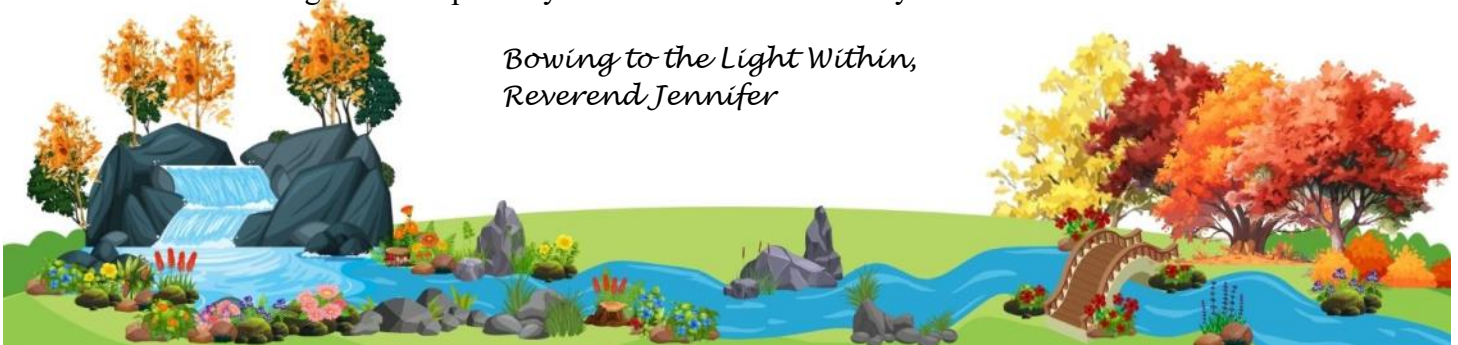
Unitarian Universalist ancestor Marge Keip reminds us, "As surely as we belong to the universe, we belong together." That belonging is not so simple. What are we seeking when we come into this religious community?

Sunday, September 21, 10:30am
"The Big Heart of Superman and Punk Rock"
Reverend Jennifer Innis

Inspired by this year's new Superman film, how do we focus on love and decency while finding our way in strange times?

Sunday, September 28, 10:30am
"Divided - and Yet..."
Reverend Jennifer Innis

In the deepening struggle for agency, democracy, and justice, how shall we show up in this moment? How do we care for ourselves and the world when so much is pulling us apart?



Sunday Worship

Ingathering & Water Communion



Join Us for Ingathering & Water Communion!

Sunday, September 7, 10:30am ~ Potluck and T-Shirt Tie Dyeing to Follow

At Ingathering, we return to the regular rhythms of our church year. Join us for our annual Water Communion service, followed by a community potluck and tie-dye fun on the lawn for all who would like to participate.

Ingathering Community Potluck

You can help make our community potluck a success! We need people to promote the event, gather volunteers, set up and/or clean up, help with serving, and bring a dish to pass. Sign up using the link below, and contact Regina Stanley at membership@peoriauuchurch.org with any questions.

Ingathering Tie Dye

After our Ingathering & Water Communion service, we invite all members—young and wise, long-time and new—to join us in tie dyeing UUCP shirts. Shirts are available to all, and an optional \$15 donation for each shirt would help offset the cost. Sign up to help using the link below.

Sign up to help with the potluck or with the tie-dye activity here:

<https://uuchurch.flocknote.com/signup/223349>



September Share the Plate ~ 100 Black Men of Central IL

The Peoria-Bloomington chapter of 100 Black Men of Central Illinois began in December 2003. They provide services and programs to our local African-American community, including economic seminars, health and wellness fairs, and post-high-school scholarships. In their Mentoring for Life Program, volunteers work with children ages 8-18 to forge long-term relationships that help address their social, emotional, and cultural needs. The mentors' efforts focus on building essential skills needed for the children to become productive, contributing citizens. This 501c3 charity has an annual operating budget of about \$7500 and receives no government funding. For more info, see 100bmci.org, look for 100 Black Men of Central Illinois on Facebook, or contact Lisa Beaupre at lisabeau3@comcast.net.

Our UU Share the Plate program allows for one-half of the undesignated Sunday offering to be donated each month to a local not-for-profit organization. You may also put cash or check in an envelope with the charity's name on it, and we will be happy to forward it.

How Much Was Given to Last Month's Share the Plate Recipient?

We raised \$501.81 for Hope Renewed Youth Conference in August.

2025-26 RE for Children & Youth

Register Today for Children & Youth Religious Education

By confirming your participation, you help us prepare to receive your kiddos when age-group classes resume on September 21. Registration can be done online at <https://uuchurch.flocknote.com/signup/215833> or by downloading and completing [this PDF](#). Below is a sneak peek at the topics each class will focus on throughout the year. See the church website for more details.

Nursery Care (Birth-3 years)

Every week, we provide loving care in our nursery for the youngest UUs among us.

Spirit Play (PreK-1st Grade)

Spirit Play uses storytelling, ritual, play, and creativity to help children explore their UU faith. Inspired by the Montessori method, it focuses on fostering each child's search for truth and meaning.

LEGO Values (2nd-4th Grade)

An introduction to UU Shared Values through storybooks, discussion, LEGOs, and play activities. In the second half of the year, we will use Mosaic Lifespan Anti-Racism curriculum to provide age-appropriate learning about identity, culture, and building the beloved community.

Power of the People (5th-8th Grade)

We will investigate times in American History when others have taken action, discuss what values guided them, and let the past inspire our future. We will draw from *Rad American History A-Z* by Kate Schatz and Miriam Klein Stahl and art projects from Mint & Bloom.

Pathfinders (9th-12th Grade)

Our high school class will be finding their own path this year by building their UU identity through Games to Build Community and, later, by examining white supremacy culture, exploring indigenous wisdom, and planning a worship service for our whole community.

Our Whole Lives: Lifespan Sexuality Curriculum

This year, we plan to run three sessions of OWL: *Grades 5-6 Fall 2025 ~ Grades K-1 Winter 2026 ~ Grades 10-11 Spring 2026*

Our Whole Lives (OWL): Lifespan Sexuality Education, Grades 5-6 Mandatory Parent Meeting

Sunday, September 14, Noon

RSVP on Flocknote at <https://uuchurch.flocknote.com/signup/223779> or by emailing Jesi Laughlin, DLRE, at DLRE@PeoriaUUChurch.org

This ten-workshop curriculum is designed to help children in 5th or 6th grade to gain the knowledge, life principles, and skills they need to understand and express their sexuality in holistic, life-enhancing ways. Like the other Our Whole Lives programs for different age groups, this comprehensive, developmentally appropriate program introduces key topics like values, body image, social media/internet, consent, gender and sexual identity, puberty, peer pressure, and healthy relationships with sensitivity and inclusiveness. The underlying values of the program reflect the justice-oriented traditions of the Unitarian Universalist Association. Participants will read *It's Perfectly Normal* by Robie H. Harris.

At this mandatory parent meeting we will...

- Introduce the OWL instructors
- Provide an overview of the program and its underlying values
- Identify a broad definition of human sexuality
- Identify ways that parents/guardians can support their children's participation in the program
- Support parents/guardians in their role as the primary sexuality educators of their children



Volunteer in Children & Youth Religious Education at UUCP

Teaching teams for 2025-26 are forming, and we need you to help make Sunday classes a success. Read the class descriptions on page 3 and see Jesi Laughlin, DLRE, to select the class you would like to work with. Volunteers are also needed for caretaking the kids' area in the Sanctuary or Fellowship Hall, cleaning and stocking busy bags and fidgets, organizing events, maintaining bulletin boards, and more. Email Jesi at DLRE@peoriaUChurch.org to make your commitment today.



Fruit and Chocolate Communion

*Sunday, September 14
in Children's RE*

Join us to mark the beginning of the Children's Religious Education year. We will celebrate with our traditional fruit & chocolate celebration of our Shared Values and the Covenant we make with one another. You may bring your favorite fruit to share or join in the bounty we will have.

Adult Religious Education

Introducing Tuesday Night Adult Religious Ed!

This fall, we are offering an adult RE experience every Tuesday night. You are encouraged to attend one, some, or all classes or just the sessions that interest you. The schedule is as follows:

Spiritual Practices ~ 1st Tuesdays, 6pm, In-Person Only

Inquirers ~ 2nd Tuesdays, 6pm, In-Person Only

Crossing Paths for Adults ~ 3rd Tuesdays, 6pm, In-Person or Zoom

Banned Book Club ~ 4th Tuesdays, 6:30pm, In-Person or Zoom

One-of-a-Kind Learning ~ 5th Tuesdays, 6pm, Varies



Detailed information below. RSVP at <https://uuchurch.flocknote.com/signup/221451> or just drop in!

Spiritual Practices: A Time for Self-Reflection

1st Tuesdays, 6-7:30pm, In-Person Only

This series helps participants develop regular disciplines of the spirit—practices that help us connect with the sacred. Spiritual practice affirms religious diversity while seeking unity in our communal quest for meaning and wholeness. Each session offers a forum for learning, sharing, and growth that can enrich our personal faith journeys.



September 2 ~ Defining & Finding Your Spiritual Practice

October 7 ~ Prayer

November 4 ~ Meditation

December 2 ~ Worship & Ritual



Inquirers for Newcomers & Visitors

2nd Tuesdays, 6-7:30pm, In-Person Only

This is a series of conversations about the Universalist Unitarian Church of Peoria and our Unitarian Universalist faith. Designed for visitors and newcomers, these conversations could be a first step to membership at UUCP.



September 9 ~ *UU History & Values* and Campus Tour

October 14 ~ *Faith Development for Children & Adults* and *Worship & the Liturgical Year*

November 11 ~ *Pastoral Care* and *Small Group Connections*

December 9 ~ *Social Action, Community Service & Racial Justice* and *Membership 101*

Crossing Paths: An Exploration of World Religions

3rd Tuesdays, 6-7:30pm, In-Person or Zoom

Each month, we will learn about a different faith tradition and the central struggle that faith wrestles with, taking inspiration from author Stephen Prothero. We will notice how this faith crosses our own UU faith's path. Participants will have an opportunity at a later date to visit a local faith community.



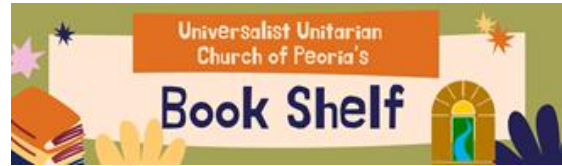
September 16: Christianity ~ October 21: Hinduism ~ November 18: Judaism ~ December 16: Islam



Tuesday, September 23, 6:30pm on Zoom at <https://bit.ly/3sxzsci>

Gender Queer by Maia Kobabe

Join us on fourth Tuesdays to read and discuss young adult books that have been banned or challenged in parts of the U.S.—books that spark meaningful conversations around social justice, identity, and UU values. Come ready to read courageously, reflect deeply, and stand up for the stories that matter. Books are available locally at [Lit on Fire](#), online at bookshop.org/shop/UUCP, for free at your local library, and at many more locations.



This month's selection is *Gender Queer* by Maia Kobabe. Maia's intensely cathartic autobiography charts her journey of self-identity, which includes the mortification and confusion of adolescent

crushes, grappling with how to come out to family and society, bonding with friends over erotic gay fanfiction, and facing the trauma and fundamental violation of pap smears. Started as a way to explain to her family what it means to be nonbinary and asexual, *Gender Queer* is more than a personal story: it is a useful and touching guide on gender identity—what it means and how to think about it—for advocates, friends, and humans everywhere.

Join us this month or in the future: **October 28:** *Crank* by Ellen Hopkins; **November 25:** *The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian* by Sherman Alexie.

Other Activities & Announcements

Movie Night with Rev. Jennifer

Superman 2025 (PG-13)

Saturday, September 6, 3pm

Peoria Riverfront Museum ~

222 SW Washington St, Peoria



This year's *Superman* is one of the standout films of the year for its storytelling and for its focus on kindness, immigration, and using our power. Join Reverend Jennifer to watch the movie on the big screen. Please arrive early to buy tickets and concessions. Reverend Jennifer will host a discussion following the movie.

Mabon

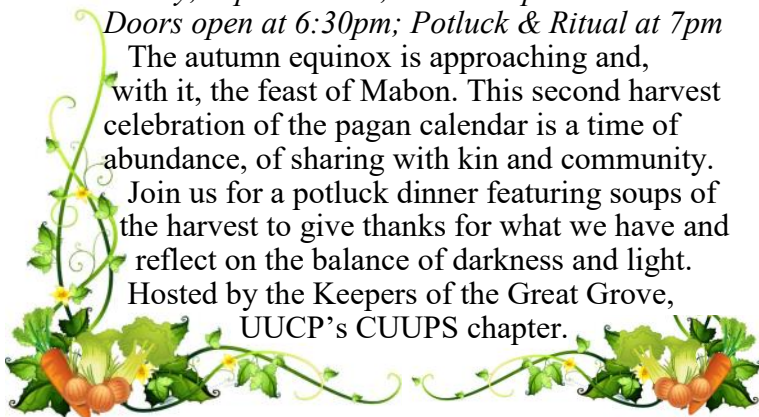
Friday, September 19, Fellowship Hall

Doors open at 6:30pm; Potluck & Ritual at 7pm

The autumn equinox is approaching and, with it, the feast of Mabon. This second harvest celebration of the pagan calendar is a time of abundance, of sharing with kin and community.

Join us for a potluck dinner featuring soups of the harvest to give thanks for what we have and reflect on the balance of darkness and light.

Hosted by the Keepers of the Great Grove, UUCP's CUUPS chapter.



Side with Love: The Gathering Featuring Deepa Iyer

Monday, September 8, 7-8:15pm CT

Register at sidewithlove.org/actioncenter

Join us for this monthly virtual event designed to offer: spiritual grounding, political analysis, and collective action. We will have live music from Parker Woodland and a conversation about solidarity with Nicole Pressley and Deepa Iyer, author of this year's Common Read, [Social Change Now: A Guide for Reflection and Connection](#). As Nicole said after a conversation at General Assembly, "Deepa's work at the intersections of solidarity, social change ecosystems, and movement building has been an important roadmap for so many of us navigating the complexity and urgency of this moment. Her reflections on grief, solidarity, and sustainable activism are brilliant and grounding."

Forest Trail Work Day

Saturday, September 13, 9-11am

We'll be widening the path in the Great Grove from the playground down to the bridge. Come out and spend some time in nature! Be sure to dress appropriately. Questions? Email Evan Stubbs at sirstubby@hotmail.com.



Illinois River Sweep

Saturday, September 20, 9am-12pm

[Forest Park Nature Center](#)

Peoria Park District invites individuals, groups, clubs, and businesses to sign up to be a part of this annual river cleanup! UUCP has pre-registered as a group, and we will be assigned to a nearby site along the river to clean up trash and make an impact in our community. The minimum age for participation is 5 years old, and volunteers ages 5 to 13 will need to be accompanied by an adult. The Illinois River Sweep is supported by the American Water Charitable Foundation's 2025 Water and Environment Grant. RSVP today at <https://uuchurch.flocknote.com/signup/223738> or email Jesi Laughlin at DLRE@PeoriaUUCChurch.org.



Check Out the Connections Fair!

Sun., Sept. 21, after service
Fellowship Hall

Our volunteers are the heart of our community. It takes many hands to keep our beloved church

going. Come and browse the tables and find the volunteer opportunities that are the right fit for you! Committee chairs and members will be at their tables and ready to give you information.

Time to Join a Connection Circle

Every year in September, we build our connection circles for the new church year. Circles are small, relational groups made up of 6-12 people who meet regularly to nurture each other in their own beloved community. We welcome new, current, and former members to join. Presently, these all-gender groups meet...

1st & 3rd Sundays 12:30-2:30pm (w/kidcare)

2nd & 4th Mondays 6:30-8:30pm

1st & 3rd Tuesdays 11am-1pm

2nd & 4th Tuesdays 7-9pm

1st & 3rd Thursdays 2-4pm

2nd & 4th Thursdays 2-4pm

Kidcare will be arranged where possible with advance notice for any group.

Circles determine how they meet—in-person, by Zoom (or other virtual format), hybrid, or outside (weather permitting). Depending on interest, new groups can be formed. Sign-up forms are available in the church foyer.

Questions? Contact Jeanette Gruber at 309-383-3111 or grubercfp@gmail.com or Rev. Jennifer at revjennifer@peoriauuchurch.org.



School Outreach Program in Need

Pleasant Valley School Outreach is in trouble! The income of 95% of Pleasant Valley Middle School families is at or below poverty level. Our program provides weekly food bags for 36 of these families, and we are in trouble because the price of food is so much higher than it was last year, even at the food bank. Our one fundraiser, the annual Soup Luncheon, usually brings in between \$1000 to \$1400, but we will need much more than that to continue to provide the quantity and quality of meals we have been providing. Will you help us? Just drop a check or cash labeled "For School Outreach" in the offering plate on Sunday or mail it to the church. We would very much appreciate it and so would the families at Pleasant Valley School!

Haunted Forest Volunteers Needed

Calling all spooks, ghouls, and anyone else who wants to lend a helping hand! Sign up to volunteer for the fourth annual Haunted Forest at UUCP! This big event is the time that we welcome the most new visitors from the tri-county community to our church. We need YOU to make it special. Work on the forest, help with activities, lend a hand with the Trick-or-Treat Trail, or be a logistics person—there are roles for everyone! The main event is 7-8:30pm on Saturday, October 25. There are opportunities to help before, during, and after. See this [description of roles](#) and sign up in the church foyer or online at <https://uuchurch.flocknote.com/signup/221605>.



Calling All Ghouls, Ghosts & Dancers!

Do you have the thrill for the chill of Halloween night? We're assembling a crew to perform the iconic "Thriller" dance at our Haunted Forest on October 25—and we want you to join us! Whether you're a seasoned dancer or just love to move like the undead, come be part of the frightful fun. Costumes, creepy vibes, and killer moves guaranteed. Rehearsals start soon—sign up now before the moon is full! Contact Regina at membership@peoriauuchurch.org to let her know you're interested.



Time to Check Your Church Directory Listing!

It's time to update the church directory. If you are a member or friend of the church, please check your listing for accuracy. Just go to members.instantchurchdirectory.com, login, and make any necessary changes to your entry. If you've never used our online directory before, now is the time!

For a computer, laptop, or tablet: Go to members.instantchurchdirectory.com. Click "First time signing in? Create Login." Then, follow the bullet points below.



For your smartphone (iPhone or Android/Samsung): Go to the App Store (iPhone) or Google Play (Android) and download the FREE Instant Church Directory app. (The icon you are looking for is pictured to the left.) Then, follow the bullet points below.

- Follow the prompts to create a login. You will be asked to enter the email address you use for the church directory and create a password.
- For security purposes, the first time you create your login and whenever you log in from a new device, you will be asked to check your email and follow a link to authenticate your identity.
- Once you have signed in twice on your smartphone, the app will automatically open to the directory after that without the need to enter your password.

If you want to be added to the directory or need help, email Melissa at office@peoriauuchurch.org.

Looking Ahead...



Springdale Cemetery Actors' Tour

Saturday, October 4, 4pm
\$15/adult & \$10/child

Join our UU group to step back in time and meet some of Peoria's fascinating past residents brought to life by

costumed actors! **You'll pay at the cemetery**—we just need to give them a headcount in advance. Members are encouraged to carpool. Sign up at <https://uuchurch.flocknote.com/signup/221708> Questions? Email Tim Herold at herold1961@gmail.com.

Tao Te Ching Study Group

Thursdays, Oct. 2-Nov. 6, 7-9pm
Conference Room or Zoom at
<https://tinyurl.com/nhabftv7>

We will be exploring the 2,500-year-old ideas in the Chinese *Tao Te Ching*. Gene Mialkowski and Bill Keefner will facilitate, and our primary source will be the *Tao Te Ching* as interpreted by Stephen Mitchell with occasional references to other translations and interpretations. The goal is to have lively, insightful discussions on the meaning of the Tao and how it applies to society today and to us as individuals. Bring your copy of the *Tao Te Ching* if you have one.



In Our UU Family

Joys & Sorrows from August

♥ We wish Terrence Lindsey all the best after celebrating his birthday on July 27. He honors this day even as he misses his son Owen.

♥ We celebrate with Katie Jones as she honors her 16-year-old daughter, Lilianna, on her birthday.

♥ We offer our condolences to Charity Kennedy and her family for the death of her biological father, Daniel Shaffer, on August 6. His funeral was in McAlester, Oklahoma, on August 11.

♥ We send our prayers and healing energies for Jo Lakota's granddaughter, Gabrielle. She is a 22-year-old college student, who struck broadside by a utility vehicle when she was going to work.

♥ We congratulate Judith Koren-Shanahan on her award of Best in Show for her piece, *The Arc of the Universe Is Long, But It Bends Toward Justice*, at the Galesburg Civic Art Center Members and Friends Show.

♥ We congratulate Karen & Mike Zichterman as they celebrated 50 years of marriage on August 30th! They celebrated with a memorable family gathering in Southern California earlier this summer.

Recurring Groups

Keepers of the Great Grove ~ CUUPs

Wednesday, September 3, 6-7:30pm

Conference Room or Zoom

at <https://tinyurl.com/2nyj5zet>

Join us for our monthly member-led meetings. We will go over general business, discuss and plan for upcoming Sabat celebrations, and a member will lead a different enrichment topic each month. CUUPs stands for Covenant of Unitarian Universalist Pagans. All are welcome.

Life Force Tai Chi ~ 1st & 3rd Sundays

Sundays, Sept. 7 & 21, 9:30am, Meet in Foyer

Tai Chi is an ancient discipline from China. Join Dave Grebner for this class, where we will learn how to stand and move to enhance the flow of chi life energy through our bodies. We will meet in the church foyer, find an available room, and practice until 10am.

Amethyst Circle: An Addiction Recovery Group Following UU Values

Wed., September 10, 7-8pm, RE Meeting Room or Zoom at <https://tinyurl.com/3u7f8yh2>

Gather with others to offer and receive support on your addiction journey. This group is facilitated by Tony Huerta and is open to all.

UUCP Herbal Group

Fridays, Sept. 12 & 26, 5-7pm, UUCP Kitchen

Come learn about nutritional and medicinal uses of herbs on 2nd and 4th Fridays. We'll explore Peoria history through its cuisine and occasionally prepare a dish to share after Sunday service. For more information, email Kevin Cashmer at kevincashmer44@gmail.com.

Mah Jongg for UUs

Sundays, Sept. 14 & 28, 1-3pm, Fellowship Hall

Do you play Mah Jongg or do you want to learn? Join the fun on 2nd and 4th Sundays! Bring your own drink and snack, and if you have a Mah Jongg set or mat, bring it, too. Questions? Contact Char Rickey at 309-472-7085 or spinwool7@aol.com or Evan Stubbs at 575-621-5519 or sirstubby@hotmail.com.

LGBTQIA2S+ Group at UUCP

Monday, September 15, 2pm, Conference Room

Do you identify as LGBTQIA2S+? Do you attend, visit, or belong to UUCP? Join us on the 3rd Monday each month. Questions? Email Tim Herold at herold1961@gmail.com for details.

Third Thursday Ladies' Lunch

Thursday, September 18, 11:30am

Weaver Ridge Clubhouse Restaurant ~

5100 N Weaverridge Blvd. Peoria

Choose between the indoor dining area or the expansive outdoor deck with the lovely view. Please RSVP to Carlette at 309-258-5890.

Brown Bag Lunch & Conversation

Thursday, September 25, 11:30am-1:30pm

Conference Room

Bring your own lunch and join in conversation with others on the 4th Thursday of each month. This lunchtime community is open to all!

Retired Men's Last Friday Lunch

Friday, September 26, Noon

Childers Eatery, 3312 N University St., Peoria

Join other retired UU men for lunch on the last Friday of the month. Questions? Email Bill Keefner at wkeef84@gmail.com.



Mugs & Musings
Thursdays at 10am
 El Mirador en el Río ~
 110 Northeast Water St.
 Peoria

Drop in and join Membership Coordinator Regina Stanley to discuss whatever is on your mind. Questions? Contact Regina at 309-648-2767 or membership@peoriauuchurch.org.

A Course in Miracles

Sundays, 8:45-10am, Conference Room

You are welcome to join ongoing weekly sessions of *A Course in Miracles*, a self-study spiritual program based on universal spiritual themes, primarily including forgiveness as the path to love in order to focus on living more peacefully in this world. To RSVP, contact Suzette Boulais at zetter@comcast.net.

Humanist Discussion Group

Tuesdays, 7pm on Zoom

at <https://bit.ly/3rthCHR>

Join us as we invite guest presenters and talk about videos of current events, religion, and politics. We aspire to use empathy, humility, curiosity, critical thinking, and compassionate communication to discuss new insights, controversy, disinformation, irrationality, and magical thinking.

Church Life

Rummage Sale ~ Saturday, August 2



Peoria Chiefs Baseball Outing ~ August 6



Peoria Chiefs Baseball Outing ~ August 28



Memory Garden Path Mulching ~ Saturday, August 16



Thank you to Connor McManis,
Gina Stow, and Evan & Jennifer
Stubbs for all your hard work
mulching the Memory Garden path!

Church Board Retreat ~ Saturday, August 23



Blessing of the Animals ~ Sunday, August 24





HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

October 1	Anne Flintgruber
October 5	Danielle Moberg
October 5	Emiko Yang
October 6	Michael Brown
October 8	Kevin Cashmer
October 9	Judith Koren-Shanahan
October 10	Stuart Allison
October 12	Bill Ordaz
October 15	Keren Greenawalt
October 16	Maury Brucker
October 16	Tom McIntyre
October 16	Margaret Tindall
October 25	Randy Hugh
October 26	Rick Grawey
October 29	Bill Moyer

Happy Anniversary!

October 4 Tony & Vicki Huerta
October 29 Scott & Amy Kordonowy

Submit your birthday or anniversary info to the office at office@peoriauuchurch.org.

Staff:

- Reverend Jennifer Innis,
Senior Minister
revjennifer@peoriauuchurch.org
(972) 639-7900
- Jesi Laughlin, Director of Lifespan Religious Education
DLRE@peoriauuchurch.org
- Regina Stanley, Membership Coordinator
membership@peoriauuchurch.org
- Melissa Anderson, Office Manager
office@peoriauuchurch.org
- Tim Herold, Lay Admin Team Member
herold1961@gmail.com
- Administrative Team
adminteam@peoriauuchurch.org

Find our connection groups on facebook

UUCP RE
Families
Connection



Unitarian
Universalist
of Peoria
Connection



NEXT BUILDER

Deadline: Wednesday, September 24
Submit to: office@peoriauuchurch.org
Mailing: Wednesday, October 1

Board of Trustees: board@peoriauuchurch.org President: Edward Flint; Vice-President: Lindy Peterson; Treasurer: Austin Locke; Secretary: Katie Jones. Board Members: Anthony Boudreau, Pat Denzer, Tony Huerta, Mike Jongerius, Charity Kennedy, BJ Lindsey, Roy Seabolt, and Jessica Spelman.

UUCP Trust Officers: trust@peoriauuchurch.org President: Jeanette Gruber; Treasurer: Tim Herold; Officer: Randy Stevens.

**Universalist Unitarian
Church of Peoria**
3000 W. Richwoods Blvd.
Peoria, IL 61604-1142
309-688-5608

www.peoriauuchurch.org
www.facebook.com/uupeoria

Service/Church School—10:30 AM Sundays

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



Join Us on Sunday at 10:30am...

- ~ In person in the Sanctuary
- ~ On Zoom at <https://bit.ly/3sxzsci> or 312-626-6799 w/Meeting ID 999 7726 7210 & Passcode 1843
- ~ On YouTube at <https://peoriauuchurch.org/service-live-stream/>
- ~ Through our website by going to <https://peoriauuchurch.org/> and clicking on livestream

Listen to Previous Sermons...

- ~ At <https://apple.co/3RtDYoH>
- ~ On Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/uupeoria>
- ~ On our YouTube channel at youtube.com/peoriauuchurchorg.

Find Us on Your Favorite Social Media Platform...



Facebook:
[facebook.com/uupeoria](https://www.facebook.com/uupeoria)



Instagram:
[instagram.com/uupeoria](https://www.instagram.com/uupeoria)



X (Twitter):
twitter.com/peoriauuchurch



Tik Tok:
[tiktok.com/@peoriauuchurch](https://www.tiktok.com/@peoriauuchurch)

Calendar of Events - September 2025

Wednesday, September 3

10:00 AM	Builder Mailing	Conference Room	office@peoriauuchurch.org
1:00 PM	Administrative Team	Conference Room	adminteam@peoriauuchurch.org
6:00-7:30 PM	Uukulele Strum Fun	Foyer	Kathy Klister, 309-363-9626
6:00 PM	Keepers of the Great Grove ~ CUUPs	Conference Room & Zoom	DLRE@peoriauuchurch.org

Thursday, September 4

10:00 AM	Mugs & Musings	El Mirador En El Rio	membership@peoriauuchurch.org
2:00-4:00 PM	Connection Circle	Jr. High Room	sgm@peoriauuchurch.org

Friday, September 6

3:00 PM	Superman Movie Night	Peoria Riverfront Museum	revjennifer@peoriauuchurch.org
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Sunday, September 7 ~ Ingathering Water Communion

8:45-10:00 AM	A Course in Miracles	Conference Room	Suzette Boulais, zetter3@comcast.net
9:30 AM	Life Force Tai Chi	Meet in Foyer	Dave Grebner, doggiedad@mtco.com
10:30 AM	Worship Service	Sanctuary	
11:30 AM	Coffee Hour	Fellowship Hall	
12:00 PM	Ingathering Potluck	Fellowship Hall	
12:30 PM	Sunday Afternoon Circle	Sr. High Room	sgm@peoriauuchurch.org
1:00 PM	PRC Practice	Sanctuary	Bill Keefner, wkeef84@gmail.com

Monday, September 8

1:00 PM	OLLI Practice	Sanctuary	Bill Keefner, wkeef84@gmail.com
6:30 PM	Monday Evening Connection Circle		sgm@peoriauuchurch.org

Tuesday, September 9

6:00-7:30 PM	Inquirers for Newcomers & Visitors	Conference Room	membership@peoriauuchurch.org
7:00 PM	Humanist Discussion Group	Virtual	Harry Elger, 309-682-9717

Wednesday, September 10

1:00 PM	Administrative Team	Conference Room	adminteam@peoriauuchurch.org
6:00-7:30 PM	Uukulele Strum Fun	Foyer	Kathy Klister, 309-363-9626
7:00-8:00 PM	Amethyst Circle	RE Meeting Room	DLRE@peoriauuchurch.org

Thursday, September 11

10:00 AM	Mugs & Musings	El Mirador En El Rio	membership@peoriauuchurch.org
2:00-4:00 PM	Thursday Afternoon Connection Circle	Conference Room	sgm@peoriauuchurch.org

Friday, September 12

5:00-7:00 PM	UUCP Herbal Group	UUCP Kitchen	kevincashmer44@gmail.com
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Saturday, September 13

9:00-11:00 AM	Forest Trail Work Day	Great Grove	Evan Stubbs, sirstubby@homail.com
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Sunday, September 14

8:45-10:00 AM	A Course in Miracles	Conference Room	Suzette Boulais, zetter3@comcast.net
10:30 AM	Worship Service	Sanctuary	
11:30 AM	Coffee Hour	Fellowship Hall	
12:00 PM	OWL Parent Meeting	RE Meeting Room	DLRE@peoriauuchurch.org
12:15 PM	Caring Committee Meeting	Conference Room	caring@peoriauuchurch.org
1:00-3:00 PM	Mah Jongg for UUs	Fellowship Hall	Char Rickey, spinwool7@aol.com

Monday, September 15

1:00 PM	OLLI Practice	Sanctuary	Bill Keefner, wkeef84@gmail.com
2:00 PM	LGBTQIA2S+ Group	Conference Room	herold1961@gmail.com
7:00 PM	NOW	Conference Room	

Tuesday, September 16

6:00 PM	Finance/Personnel Committee	Virtual/Library	Bill Keefner, wkeef84@gmail.com
6:00-7:30 PM	Crossing Paths: World Religions	Conference Room	DLRE@peoriauuchurch.org
7:00 PM	Humanist Discussion Group	Virtual	Harry Elger, 309-682-9717

Wednesday, September 17

1:00 PM	Administrative Team	Conference Room	adminteam@peoriauuchurch.org
6:00 PM	Sierra Club Meeting	Fellowship Hall	Robert Rowe, 309-370-2575
6:00-7:30 PM	Uukulele Strum Fun	Foyer	Kathy Klister, 309-363-9626
6:30 PM	Worship Committee	Conference Room	office@peoriauuchurch.org

Thursday, September 18

10:00 AM Mugs & Musings
 11:30 AM Third Thursday Ladies' Lunch
 2:00-4:00 PM Connection Circle

El Mirador En El Rio
 Weaver Ridge Clubhouse
 Jr. High Room

membership@peoriauuchurch.org
 Carlette Corlett, 309-258-5890
sgm@peoriauuchurch.org

Friday, September 19

6:30-8:30 PM Mabon

Fellowship Hall

DLRE@peoriauuchurch.org

Saturday, September 20

9:00 AM-Noon Illinois River Sweep

Forest Park Nature Center

DLRE@peoriauuchurch.org

Sunday, September 21

8:45-10:00 AM A Course in Miracles
 9:30 AM Life Force Tai Chi
 10:30 AM Worship Service
 11:30 AM Coffee Hour
 12:00 PM Connections Fair
 12:00 PM Stewardship Team Meeting
 12:00 PM Welcome Committee
 12:30 PM Sunday Afternoon Circle
 1:00 PM PRC Practice

Conference Room
 Meet in Foyer
 Sanctuary
 Fellowship Hall
 Fellowship Hall
 Conference Room
 RE Meeting Room
 Sr. High Room
 Sanctuary

Suzette Boulais, zetter3@comcast.net
 Dave Grebner, doggiedad@mtco.com
membership@peoriauuchurch.org
revjennifer@peoriauuchurch.org
membership@peoriauuchurch.org
sgm@peoriauuchurch.org
 Bill Keefner, wkeef84@gmail.com

Monday, September 22

1:00 PM OLLI Practice
 6:30 PM Monday Evening Connection Circle

Sanctuary

Bill Keefner, wkeef84@gmail.com
sgm@peoriauuchurch.org

Tuesday, September 23

6:30 PM UU Can't Ban My Books Book Club
 7:00 PM Humanist Discussion Group
 7:00 PM ACLU

Virtual
 Virtual
 Virtual

DLRE@peoriauuchurch.org
 Harry Elger, 309-682-9717
 Ken Hofbauer, peoriaaclu@gmail.com

Wednesday, September 24

1:00 PM Administrative Team
 6:00-7:30 PM Ukulele Strum Fun
 6:30 PM Board Meeting
 11:45 PM *Builder* Deadline

Conference Room
 Foyer
 Conference Room

adminteam@peoriauuchurch.org
 Kathy Klister, 309-363-9626
office@peoriauuchurch.org
office@peoriauuchurch.org

Thursday, September 25

10:00 AM Mugs & Musings
 11:30 AM-1:30 PM Brown Bag Lunch & Conversation
 2:00-4:00 PM Thursday Afternoon Connection Circle

El Mirador En El Rio
 Conference Room
 Conference Room

membership@peoriauuchurch.org
office@peoriauuchurch.org
sgm@peoriauuchurch.org

Friday, September 26

12:00 PM Retired Men's Last Friday Lunch
 5:00 PM UUUC Herbal Group

Childers on University
 UUUC Kitchen

Bill Keefner, wkeef84@gmail.com
kevincashmer44@gmail.com

Sunday, September 28

8:45-10:00 AM A Course in Miracles
 10:30 AM Worship Service
 11:30 AM Coffee Hour
 1:00-3:00 PM Mah Jongg for UUs

Conference Room
 Sanctuary
 Fellowship Hall
 Fellowship Hall

Suzette Boulais, zetter3@comcast.net
 Char Rickey, spinwool7@aol.com

Monday, September 29

1:00 PM OLLI Practice
 6:00-7:30 PM League of Women Voters

Sanctuary
 Sanctuary

Bill Keefner, wkeef84@gmail.com
office@peoriauuchurch.org

Tuesday, September 30

8:30 AM-2:30 PM SEAPCO Preschool Screenings
 6:00-7:30 PM One-of-a-Kind Learning
 7:00 PM Humanist Discussion Group

RE Commons
 Conference Room
 Virtual

office@peoriauuchurch.org
DLRE@peoriauuchurch.org
 Harry Elger, 309-682-9717

