

e-mail to the Church: Contact@UUQuincy.org
e-mail to our Minister: qucminister@gmail.com
e-mail to the Webmaster: Web-ster@UUQuincy.org

We prefer receiving e-mail messages to telephone messages.
Church Answering Machine: (217) 222-5468
Rev. Charley Earp (773) 454-1739

Follow us on Facebook:
www.facebook.com/UUQuincy
Or join our Members Group:
www.facebook.com/groups/5045352585
The Church Calendar and More Info Can Be
Found on our Website at
<https://uuquincy.org/>

Unitarian Church

1479 Hampshire Street

Quincy, Illinois 62301

Charley Earp, Minister
Jennifer Harvey, Board President

*E-mail messages to the church are preferred over messages being left on our telephone answering machine.
Our Church office is staffed irregularly. We appreciate your patience when you send us e-mail and especially when you leave us telephone messages.*

Sunday Services - May 2021

Our **Sunday Zoom Services** begin at 10:30 a.m.
Ask to join our Zoom Services: Contact@UUQuincy.org

Sunday, May 2:

10:30 am, *It Is What It Is.* Speaker: Alice Gander. Alice will share her personal and spiritual journey taken since her husband, Joel Dobson, was diagnosed with early-onset Alzheimer's exactly twenty years ago on May 2, 2001. She will walk us through the despair of watching the disease destroy his mind, the grief after his death in January, 2010, and the slow recovery to find purpose again, through acceptance of what is, rather than what was expected.

Sunday, May 9:

10:30 am, *Envisioning the Dunbar Village* Speaker: Doug Muder. One fundamental problem of modern life is that we participate in a global society of 7 billion people, when our brains evolved to manage about 150 relationships. What would happen if our theology idealized the village of quirky individuals, rather than the cosmic machine designed by the Great Watchmaker?

Sunday, May 16:

10:30 am, *Rising Up Into Justice* Speaker: Minister Charley Earp. The issues of racial oppression, economic inequality, lgbtq+ discrimination, and political reaction call upon all people of conscience to rise up into a new commitment to justice. Can our congregation deepen its commitment to justice in a robust way?

Sunday, May 23: Annual Meeting at Wavering Park

Sunday, May 30:

10:30 am, *Acceptance of Who We Are, and What Life Deals Us.* Speaker: Carol Nichols. Carol will explore poetic expressions of acceptance where poetry, not prose, tells us how to seek "a truth beyond understanding" as we practice a healthy way of acceptance.

**Kenna Armstrong will be reading the Wisdom Story on
May 2, May 16, and May 30.**

Touchstones Theme: Acceptance



...I was ...drawn to writing about radical acceptance ...because we spend so many moments at war, and we do it in the ways we judge ourselves, ...the ways we blame others, ...the ways we feel it's our country against that country. There is so much division....
...What is ...the path of healing? It can begin ...by embracing the life that's here. Because if we can begin to bring a sense of peace and

care to the life inside us, naturally the circles widen to include other people. It's the way of the heart—if we can be kind towards ourselves we'll be kind towards others.

...Carl Rogers, put it this way, "It wasn't until I accepted myself just as I was in this moment, that I was free to change." *Tara Brach*

Why are we still talking about inclusivity and diversity when we have done so little to make them real? Why are we still looking pained about the lack of diversity...? Because diversity, inclusivity, is terribly hard, terribly uncomfortable, definitely unsettling, and often quite frustrating.

What I know about being inclusive—crossing from culture to culture, learning the language of diversity—is that it's the work of a lifetime. It's hard to accept people who are not like you, who don't talk the way you do, or believe the things you believe, or dress or vote as you do.

...Nothing that Unitarian Universalists need to do is more important than making justice real—here, where we are. Hard as diversity is, it is our most important task.

Rev. Rosemary Bray McNatt



Join us in exploring Acceptance

Photo Credits (top to bottom)

- ♦ Dogman & Rabbitwoman, photo by Hulki Okan Tabak from Pixabay
- ♦ Black woman, photo by Christopher Salerno from Pixabay

Dear Members and Friends of UCQ,

Spring has taken on a special meaning this year as we carefully emerge from the necessary constraints we've lived under in this pandemic. I've always celebrated the return of sunny and warm days, but rarely with the tense anticipation of this current time.

I want to tear off my mask, grab my buddies, and head off to a live rock concert, the louder the better!

And, of course, it's a bit too early for that. We need to be patient, let the vaccination immunity reach more of our neighbors, continue masking in public, and watch attentively the infection rates in our community.

As I've thought deeply about how my ministry to UCQ can best serve the long-term health and vitality of its people, I'm eager to rush ahead, to make strategic changes, to begin important - if difficult - conversations, and shift practices long in place.

There's two errors I can make; move too fast, or too slow. Too fast and I fail to do the necessary work of collaborative discernment. Too slow and neglected issues become more difficult to address.

I am absolutely convinced that the Unitarian Church of Quincy is poised to make a powerful impact on our part of the world. A progressive religion of universal love and transformative justice is sorely needed everywhere and especially in conservative parts of our world.

As we begin the careful journey toward the end of this church season and look ahead to summer and fall, let's commit to intentionally moving forward with deliberate speed.

Blessed be!

Respectfully,

Charley Earp

Evanston IL

<https://www.uuministry.com/charleyearp/>

872-301-0990

Minister Charley Earp's Ordination

On July 17th at 3pm our minister, Charley Earp, will be ordained via Zoom! We need a few volunteers for planning. If interested, contact Charley Earp!

A Note From Tech Support

As summer (and a short break) are coming up, I just wanted to drop a note to the congregation to say thank you for the past few months! When I applied for my position within the church, I was at a definite low point. 2020 was a bad year for everyone, but working with the Unitarian Church of Quincy not only helped me to gain more skills (which helped me land a better career-job) but also helped me out of my *2020-Sucks-Slump*. In a few short weeks I will graduate from college, and I'm excited to see what the future holds for me and for this congregation.

Thank you all for your patience and for this opportunity! And have a great Summer!

P.S: it was great getting to see some of you face-to-face last Saturday!! Sometimes it's nice to get out from behind the screen :)

Taylor Wood

First Friday

Kate and Jim Daniels will host our First Friday of 2021! Mark your calendars for May 7th from 6pm---? The Daniels have a large outdoor area with a great deal of seating and love to entertain. Please bring soc/something to drink and an appetizer or food item you'd like to share.

Please call Mary Beth Gapinski, board secretary, for their address.

There will be a First Friday hosted by Alice Gander on June 4th and a July 2nd First Friday hosted by Deborah Lee. More information will be forthcoming in the next newsletter.

Annual Meeting

Our annual meeting will be held on May 23rd at the main shelter of Wavering Park. We have 51 standing members and will need 40% (21 members) to meet quorum as voting will only be concerning the 2021-2022 fiscal budget. Proxy forms will be e-mailed or sent by the postal service this week. If you are unable to attend the meeting but would like to designate someone to vote for you, please fill out the proxy and send it back. If you'd rather print it out and send it through the mail, please address it to the Unitarian Church, c/o Mary Beth Gapinski, secretary. There is a survey question regarding building repair and/or improvement attached to the proxy so please look it over and give the board of trustees your input. Be advised that mail delivery has been somewhat sketchy the past few months, thanks to a newly appointed postmaster general so sending your proxy form in early would be best.

There will be no Sunday service on the 23rd but you are all invited to the shelter at 10:30 am for a carry-in coffee hour and a time for visiting with friends before we get down to the business at hand at 11 am. The Fellowship Committee will provide a couple of dishes to pass and all the utensils....silverware, plates, and napkins. Coffee will be provided by the Worship Committee. There are 12 long picnic tables at the shelter and six electrical outlets.

The shelter is at the southern entrance to the park only as the north end is blocked off by construction (although that may be done by the time of the annual meeting). Directions to get to the shelter would be to turn on North 36th street off of Broadway and then turn right onto Columbus St. Turn left onto North 39th street which will take you all the way to the shelter.

Please invoke whatever gods you like, or cross your fingers, for a clear and sunny day!

UU General Assembly

The UU General Assembly from June 23-27 is a 100% virtual event this year. Our church can send two people to it who will be given member delegate credentials. This allows members to vote on business matters and a link is provided this year in order to vote in the UUA Election. The GA theme for 2021 is Circle 'Round for Justice, Healing, and Courage.

If you are interested in attending this year's virtual General Assembly, please contact secretary Mary Beth Gapinski for more information.

Donate-A-Plate Donations

On the 2nd Sunday of each month the cash, any designated checks, or designated donations made on the website are donated to a specific charity. The purpose of this is to show how our church community supports other causes in the area. Please make checks out to the church and write the charity name or "donate-a plate" in the memo area or designate "Donate-s-plate" when donating through the "Giving" link on our website. The church will write one check to the charity to show our combined support towards them. **This month's Donate-A-Plate will benefit the Back to School Fair.**

We Offer Congratulations and Best Wishes to Those with May Birthdays

May 1 Zoe Catherine Drew

May 15 Bob Reinertsen

May 19 Nancy Winters

May 1 Zachary Nathan Drew

May 17 Floyd Hayes

May 22 Charles Ervin

May 3 Kurtis Engelbrecht/Villafane

May 17 Larry Finley

May 25 Susan Drew

Quincy Unitarian Church Activities Calendar

Sunday, May 2:

10:30 am, 10:30 am, *It Is What It Is.* Speaker: Alice Gander. Alice will share her personal and spiritual journey taken since her husband, Joel Dobson, was diagnosed with early-onset Alzheimer's exactly twenty years ago on May 2, 2001. She will walk us through the despair of watching the disease destroy his mind, the grief after his death in January, 2010, and the slow recovery to find purpose again, through acceptance of what is, rather than what was expected.

Tuesday, May 4:

7:30 pm, *Check-In With the Minister* Join Lisa and Charley for their weekly check-in with the congregation!

Thursday, May 6:

7:30 pm, *Thursday Discussion Group.* Join Minister Charley Earp for a further exploration of UU Principals. Upending Our Principals.

Sunday, May 9:

10:30 am, *Envisioning the Dunbar Village* Speaker: Doug Muder. One fundamental problem of modern life is that we participate in a global society of 7 billion people, when our brains evolved to manage about 150 relationships. What would happen if our theology idealized the village of quirky individuals, rather than the cosmic machine designed by the Great Watchmaker?

Tuesday, May 11:

7:30 pm, *Check-In With the Minister* Join Lisa and Charley for their weekly check-in with the congregation!

Thursday, May 13:

7:30 pm, *UCQ Possibilities & Prospects:* Join Minister Charley Earp for a further exploration of UU Principals. Upending Our Principals.

Sunday, May 16:

10:30 am, *Rising Up Into Justice* Speaker: Minister Charley Earp. The issues of racial oppression, economic inequality, lgbtq+ discrimination, and political reaction call upon all people of conscience to rise up into a new commitment to justice. Can our congregation deepen its commitment to justice in a robust way?

Tuesday, May 18:

7:30 pm, *Check-In With the Minister* Join Lisa and Charley for their weekly check-in with the congregation!

Thursday, May 20:

7:30 pm, *Thursday Discussion Group.* Join Minister Charley Earp for a further exploration of UU Principals. Upending Our Principals.

Sunday, May 23:

10:30 am, *Annual Meeting At Wavering Park* Wavering Park Shelter House, Quincy

Let's gather for visiting and breakfast that we carry-in to share and enjoy during the Annual meeting which will start at 11. Go north on 36th from Broadway, turn East(R) on Columbus Road, and then north(L) on 39th St. The Shelter house is on the left.

Please check this newsletter for proxy info if you are not able to attend.

Tuesday, May 25:

7:30 pm, *Check-In With the Minister* Join Lisa and Charley for their weekly check-in with the congregation!

Thursday, May 27:

7:30 pm, *Thursday Discussion Group.* Join Minister Charley Earp for a further exploration of UU Principals. Upending Our Principals.

Sunday, May 30:

10:30 am, *Acceptance of Who We Are, and What Life Deals Us.* Speaker: Carol Nichols. Carol will explore poetic expressions of acceptance where poetry, not prose, tells us how to seek "a truth beyond understanding" as we practice a healthy way of acceptance.

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1479 Hampshire Street
Quincy, Illinois 62301**

About The Quincy Unitarian Church's Newsletter

The Newsletter is prepared every month for contributing Members and Friends of Quincy's Unitarian Church. The goal is to provide a convenient and accessible means of communication among those who value Quincy's Unitarian Universalist community. Visitors to the church in May receive a complimentary newsletter for three months. Additional copies are available at the church.

News must be submitted by the Monday before the first event in the new month's calendar in order to be included in the newsletter.

Our Newsletter is available in two ways: via "snail-mail" and by e-mail. Your choice and your requests as well as all changes of address, subscription requests, and newsletter article submissions may be made . . .

- by [e-mail](#) to the Church or the Webmaster,
 - by leaving a message on the church's answering machine at (217) 222-5468,
 - by contacting any member of the Newsletter Team.
- or by mailing a note to the church:

Newsletter
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