



UNITARIAN CHURCH OF QUINCY

JULY 2026
NEWSLETTER

CONSIDERING MEMBERSHIP?

In the Unitarian Universalist tradition, membership is open to all who choose to walk with us in the spirit of love and fellowship.

If you would like to receive this Newsletter by email, or be listed in our Directory of Members & Friends, or are considering becoming a member of our church, please email us at contact@uuquincy.org with your request.

UU Quincy Newsletter

If you would like to be included in the church directory, please email your request to contact@uuquincy.org

SUMMER SUNDAYS - 9:30 TO 11:00

We've had about half a dozen folks show up. Several have seen what the newsletter had to say and several didn't. We had four folks at 9:30, last Sunday, and three more showed up at regular service's time at 10:30. Perhaps it was a bit awkward, but we had a good time talking about the state of the world and are looking forward to doing more of it again during July and August.

FIRST FRIDAY

July 3rd will be our celebration with Deborah Lee at Four Winds Farm at 3729 N. 36th st.

Bring food to share, something sweet or savory, no one is picky and all offerings are welcome. The set up will be in the teaching center building which is closest to Deborah's house. Also bring what you want to drink and it's strongly advised to BRING LAWN CHAIRS!

It's close enough to the actual 4th of July holiday and there will be some fireworks that will be set off and carefully tended to. Please bring any of your own if you'd like as Deborah has a large plot of land that hasn't yet been planted so the firework station will be set up there.

Festivities begin at 6pm but take some time and walk around the gardens and appreciate the beauty of nature and the combined hard work of Four Winds Farm and Terripin Farms!

WHAT IS THE UUA'S GREEN SANCTUARY 2030 PROCESS

by Katherine Daniels, Green Sanctuary Projects member

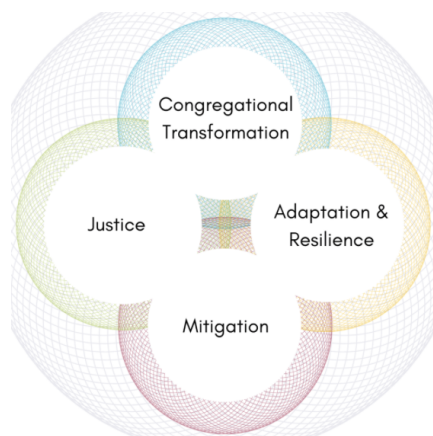
Our Green Sanctuary Projects group met in April and decided to work on the issue of recycling. We watched the GS2030 Orientation Video which is a UUA process and decided to participate.

What is GS2030? Green Sanctuary 2030 supports UUs in transforming our congregations through climate justice. Climate Justice sounds like a big ask! The UUA is cognizant that each UUA congregation has different resources and different abilities. While this seems like a lot to focus on, we believe that, with some thought and using this process, we can have an impact in our community as well as our congregation.

This is an overview of the Green Sanctuary 2030 Process:

- Four Essentials of Climate Action
- Five Approaches to Support Your Congregation
- One Requirement for Yearly Recognition

Four Essentials of Climate Action



communities

Your team will engage in intersectional actions on each of the **Four Essentials** of Climate Action.

The Four Essentials for Climate Action present unique but interconnected areas that are critical to advancing climate justice. While each represents a particular area of climate action, they are deeply intertwined.

- **Congregational Transformation:** Working together to improve the ways we organize and collaborate
- **Community Resilience:** Cultivating communities of care to prepare for and respond to climate disruption.
- **Justice:** Partnering with those most harmed by climate change to build thriving

- **Mitigation:** Reducing emissions from energy usage, transportation, waste, & consumption

Please join us in our work to make the Unitarian Church of Quincy, IL into a Green Sanctuary 2030 congregation.

BACK TO SCHOOL FAIR, SATURDAY, AUGUST 1, 2026

REQUEST FOR SUPPLIES & VOLUNTEERS

The Back to School Fair is scheduled for Saturday, August 1, 2026, at Illes Elementary School, 3111 North 12th Street from 8:00am to 11:00am. The Social Action Committee is purchasing most of the list of items for the 50 Kindergarten Girl Book Bags & School Supplies.

A few items are still needed if anyone is interested in shopping:

10 Regular Size Book Bags

10 1" or 1 1/2" Binders

These items must be purchased and delivered to the church prior to Wednesday, July 29. You may turn in your receipts to the treasurer for reimbursement or fill out an "In Kind Donation" form if you wish to donate the supplies. Supplies may be stored in the Resource room or upstairs on the shelves by the office.

Volunteers are invited to help fill the book bags with all the purchased supplies on Thursday, July 30, at 5:15pm. They will be delivered to Illes Elementary Friday morning.

Volunteers are also welcome to distribute the book bags on Saturday morning anytime between 8:00am and 11:00am. It is so much fun to see the excited girls choose their new book bag!

Please contact Leann Flanagan (217-653-6676) if you plan to shop or if you would like to help at the fair.

WORSHIP COMMITTEE

Do you have a heart for worship, new ideas, and the future of our congregation? We'd especially love to hear from you if you:

- Enjoy leading or would like to try leading worship services
- Can stay calm and flexible when things don't go exactly as planned
- Care deeply about church growth and helping our congregation discover and share its gifts

Worship is intentional — it is shaped by people who are willing to imagine, organize, and bring meaningful experiences to life. It can be hard work, and there is a good bit of trial & error. However, the work can be deeply fulfilling and can expand your love for the church. If you're curious about serving in a new way, there could be a place for you on the team — and we'd love to talk with you!

Please save the date for the next committee meeting: August 9th at 9:00 a.m. All are welcome! In the meantime, I'm always available to answer questions or discuss concerns.

Nathalie Dincher, Chair

uuquincy.worship@gmail.com

910-978-3299

ELECTRONIC PLEDGE PAYMENTS AND OTHER THOUGHTS

The Finance Committee would like to remind our members and friends of the automated payment option for church tithing and pledges. This method is preferred and beneficial for both the church and the donor. We have seen some progress in adding members for this option, but there is room for improvement. Please keep the QUC in mind over the summer period.

To start electronic automatic donations, please visit the church website uuquincy.org and go to the Giving tab. There are several Donate buttons under the Giving tab that will take you through a secure encrypted webform to set up your account. If you need assistance, please contact Treasurer Rich Cook in person, at rjcookqcy@gmail.com, or call 217.285.9424.

In recent reading, I found a couple of other things to pass along that those with the financial means that are interested in supporting QUC should be aware of for 2026. These thoughts come with the disclaimer that I am not an adviser, accountant, or lawyer in any way. Please check with your money manager/accountant for details:

A Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD) allows IRA owners 70½ and older to transfer up to \$111,000 per year directly to qualified charities tax-free. This amount satisfies Required Minimum Distributions (RMDs) and excludes the donated funds from your taxable income, lowering your overall tax liability without needing to itemize.

Also, there is a new above the line deduction for non-itemizers for charitable giving. You do have to keep a record of your contribution, and it must be cash (not stock, etc.), but you can contribute to QUC and deduct up to \$1,000 single/\$2,000 joint from your income.

YARNIES MEETINGS

The Yarnies group will meet over the summer at the church at 11:30 am in the Garden Room.

Dates: July 12, July 26, August 9 and August 23. Bring your projects. Beginners are welcome. Lessons in crochet or knit are available, or just come to meet with friends. All are welcome.

RUMMAGE SALE

The church rummage sale is now set for Saturday August 8th. It will be from 9am-1pm as all our fundraisers are.

We do not have any restrictions on what we will take, but we do have a few suggestions (some people call them rules, but I call them common sense!)

1. We want clothing in good condition. No rips, tears, or stains.
2. If it's an electronic device or anything that requires electricity, please ensure it's in good working order in the first place.
3. Obviously, we don't want your old Scrabble game that's missing a couple of tiles. Same goes for jigsaw puzzles... all 500 pieces, please!
4. Please clean up any items that are dusty and/dirty. That is YOUR job, not ours. It takes valuable time away from our job of setting up, placement, and pricing. Thank you in advance!

The downstairs bookstore may be open. If you have books you would like to donate, please contact...

Julie Cook or Susan Deege

For other questions concerning the rummage sale, please contact...

Mary Beth Gapinski or Leann Flanagan

All contact info is listed in the directory.

Chris Weiwei will have a truck available if it is needed for larger items. We also use the truck to take away everything that doesn't sell, which can require several trips. Please help us reduce the number of trips by taking anything you were going to give to the Salvation Army anyway (or throw away) instead of bringing it to the church sale.

Don't quit now because I have more information for you!

Please bring your donations on Thursday (Aug. 6th) and Friday (Aug. 7th) by 5:30pm. Please, please, please do not bring anything on the morning of the sale because we cannot place and price at the last minute.

We also need many, many volunteers to help ensure the rummage sale is a success, so please come and help set up or price items, work the day of the sale, tear down afterward, or help out in any way you see a need for. All hands for any length of time are welcome and appreciated!

Our rummage sale raked in over \$2000 last year, a record breaker, so people donated quality items that were unique and in good shape, and many were one-of-a-kind! Let's make this fundraiser just as successful!

Mary Beth Gapinski, chair

CHURCH LADIES LUNCHEON

Every two months, a church lady volunteers (this time it's me!) to put together a birthday luncheon. I can't tell you why, but on July 18th, we will celebrate the May, June, and July birthdays. More fun that way right?

We do NOT bring gifts but a card for each birthday recipient is always appreciated.

We will be meeting at the Calftown Cafe, 432 S. 8th st. at 11:30 am on July 18th. A menu will be posted on our church FB page in the next few days, and Bill Burns would love to be a bit more prepared and ready to go if some of you pre-ordered. I've already informed (warned?) him to expect roughly 20 of us!

I always look forward to these luncheons! See you there!
Mary Beth

FOSTERING HOPE – SOCIAL ACTION COMMITTEE SUMMER PROJECT

Just a reminder from June's newsletter article about the collection of new or gently used duffel bags & personal care items for kids in the foster system.

The program is especially in need of hair care products for the African-American children. We are partnering with Shelby Rose (Ms. Quincy), DCFS & Chaddock for this project. For further information, please reach out to Leann Flanagan or Bill Burns.