

APRIL 2011

Unichord



THE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH OF ELGIN

Second City Comes to UUCE

Shoelace Academy, a group of Second City Conservatory graduates, who write sketch comedy and perform improv shows across the Chicago area, is bringing its talent to the Unitarian Universalist Church of Elgin (UUCE) on Saturday, April 30, at 7:00 p.m. This group has performed at Donny's Skybox, Beverly Arts Center, Gorilla Tango, the Conservatory, and the Chicago Sketch Comedy Festival—the Nation's Largest Sketch Comedy Fest.

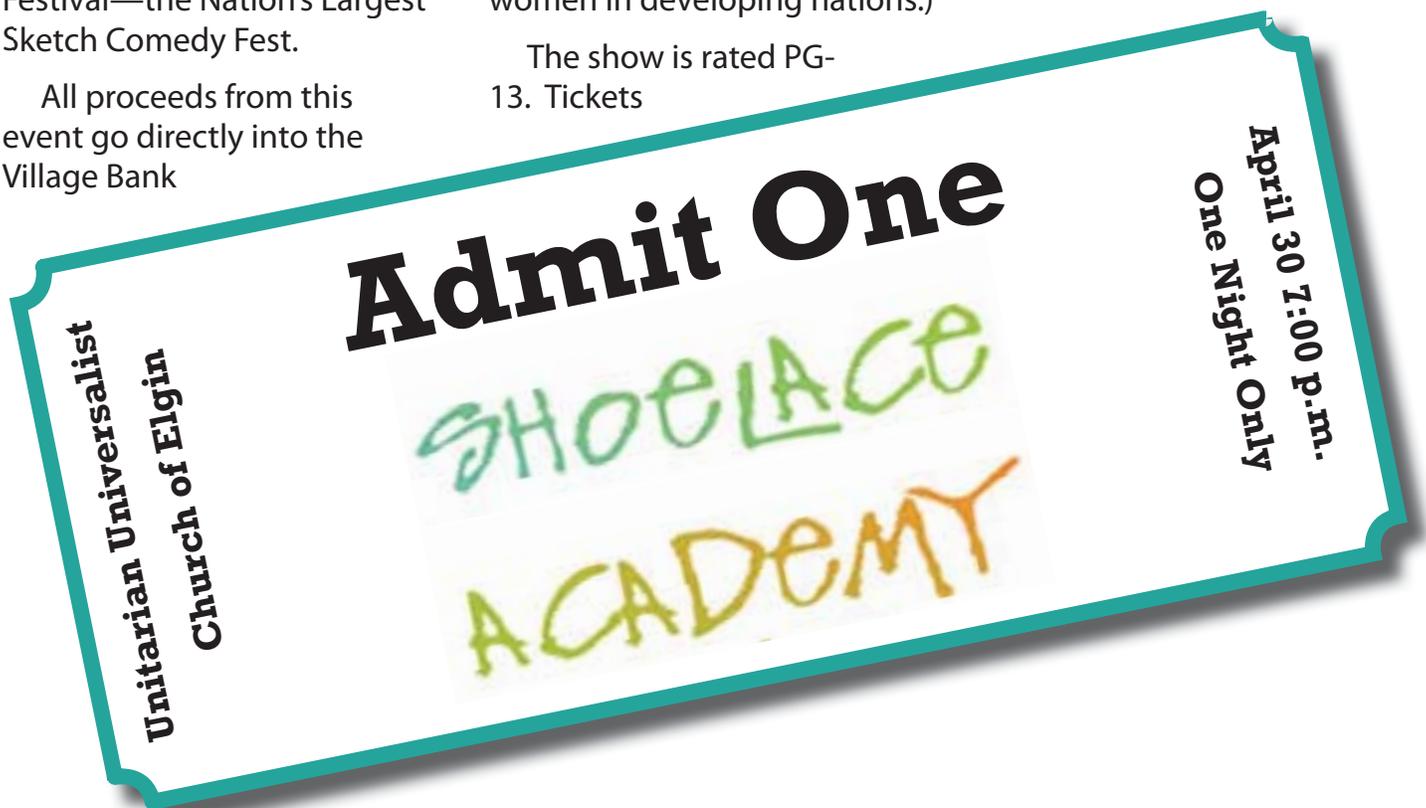
All proceeds from this event go directly into the Village Bank

Fund at UUCE. For a suggested donation of \$10 to \$20 (though more is always appreciated), you will receive an evening of sketch comedy and improv fun, and a warm feeling that you have contributed to the UUCE Village Bank Fund. (For those unfamiliar with our Village Bank program, we are the proud sponsor of five banks through the FINCA organization, which offers micro-loans to mainly women in developing nations.)

The show is rated PG-13. Tickets

can be purchased after church each Sunday in April. Checks can be made out to UUCE, with Village Bank on the memo line.

Seating is limited, so get your tickets early. Beverages and light snacks will be available the night of the performance. The contact person for this event is [Kathy Hislip](#)—proud mother of Zach, who is a member of Shoelace.



From the Minister

O sweet spontaneous

O sweet spontaneous
earth how often have
the
doting

fingers of
purient philosophers pinched
and
poked

thee
,has the naughty thumb
of science prodded
thy

beauty .how
oftn have religions taken
thee upon their scraggy knees
squeezing and

buffeting thee that thou mightest conceive
gods
(but
true

to the incomparable
couch of death thy
rhythmic
lover

thou answerest
them only with
spring)

e.e. cummings

A Month of Sundays

APRIL

4/3: what we must know about immigration

We are fortunate to have Shirley Sadjadi, an immigration lawyer in the Fox Valley area, share her experience and insight around the issue of immigration. Service led by the Reverend Dan Brosier.

4/10: Remembering Those We Have Lost

Acknowledgment of life events is essential to any spiritual community. In this service we will recognize those who have completed the circle of life on this earth. In a ritual to honor the dead, we will pay tribute to those who no longer live among us. Service led by the Reverend Dan Brosier.

4/17: Going Outside to See Within

Often as adults we lose track of the child within us. This is an invitation to go outside and to be aware of what's there, like we did as children. Then we can see something that is especially valuable to us, and recognize what that attraction says about us. Service led by Elizabeth Closson.

4/24: Resurrection

The central theme of Easter is resurrection—not necessarily “the” resurrection but the fact that there is the possibility of rebirth. Service led by the Reverend Dan Brosier.

All services begin at 10:45

April Calendar

Worship Services

Sunday mornings at 10:45

Adult Religious Education:

Speaking Peace

Sunday mornings at 9:00
in room 302

Board Meeting

April 18 at 7:00 in
the Fellowship Hall

Book Group— Afternoon

April 25 at 12:30

(offsite)

Book Group—Evening

April 15 at 7:00

(offsite)

Buddhists

Thursdays at 7:00 in rooms
301 and 302

Choir Practice

Thursdays at 7:30 in the
Sanctuary

⇨ CHURCH RENTAL ⇩

Mondays at 5:30 in the
Fellowship Hall and
classrooms

Committee on the Ministry

April 6 at 7:00

Evening Covenant Group

April 5 and 19 at 7:00

(offsite)

Executive Team Meeting

April 5 and 19 at 1:30

Finance Committee

April 13 at 7:00

Green Sanctuary Meeting

April 17 at 12:30 in room
301

Improv Show - Village Bank

Fundraiser

April 30 at 7:00 in the
Sanctuary



New U

April 3 and 10 at 12:45 in
room 301

Pagan Unity Book Club

April 12 at 7:00 in the
Fellowship Hall

Pantry Sunday

April 3

Plant Lettuce in the Community Garden

April 2 at 2:00 (garden
setup is at 1:00)

Plant Potatoes in the Community Garden

April 30 at 2:00

L-UU-au For All

April 10 at
12:30

in
the
Fellowship
Hall



qUilters

April 2 from 9 - noon in
room 302

Religious Educators' Meeting

April 20 at 10:00 in the
Fellowship Hall

Social Justice Council

April 27 at 7:00 in the
Fellowship Hall

UNICHORD DEADLINE

⇨ April 17 ⇩

Western Crescent Ministers Meeting

April 20 at 11:00
in room 301

Pledge Income





From the Director of Religious Exploration and Education

With spring officially here, the weather is in what I call the “see-saw mode.” There will be a day or two that is warm and sunny, and then a few days that are cold and a bit snowy.

And then we once again are teased with a few days of warmth.

In anticipation of the hot days of summer, the Religious Exploration and Education Team will be sponsoring a L-UU-au For All on April 10 after the service. The youth will be decorating Fellowship Hall tropical style. There will be a potluck, music and games. Grab your Hawaiian shirts and flip flops and

join us! Look for more information in the order of service and the email list.

Adult Spirituality continues this month with “Speaking Peace”, facilitated by Bob Sandidge and Anne Ward.

We continue to learn and practice the 3 or 4 easy steps and how to integrate

these patterns into our daily living to help us be more effective and satisfied communicators. This is an open program, so feel free to join us on any Sunday morning at 9am in room 302.

Here’s what is happening for the young people this month:

April 3

Preschool: My World Has Light

K-2: Hare’s Gifts

3-5: Science-Inventions

6-8: We Shall Overcome

High School: Speaking Peace, Part 2

April 10

Preschool: My World Has Trees

K-2: Our Ancestral Home

3-5: Science-A Visitor

6-8: Decorating Fellowship Hall for the L-UU-au

High School: Going out to brunch

April 17

Preschool: My World Has Flowers

K-2: Tango

3-5: Frank Lloyd Wright, Part 1

6-8: Love & Equality

High School: To be determined

April 24

Easter Egg Hunt

In Faith,

Kathy



Lettuce Feed the Hungry

On April 2 at 2 p.m., all are invited to join in planting 300 heads of lettuce in our community garden. Children are encouraged to participate, but must be supervised by parents or guardians. Remember to dress in layers!

Garden setup begins at 1 p.m., and all hands are most gratefully welcome. Bring a pitchfork if you have one, and wear gloves. We will lift away the winter blanket of leaves, saving them for

our April 30 potato planting. Then we will flip and loosen the soil and set up the drip irrigation system.

Our church’s community garden is a proud charter member of the **Elgin Community Garden Network** (ECGN). Our two-fold mission is to teach sustainable skills and to feed the hungry. Join us!



Share the Plate

During each Sunday service we pass the baskets to collect an offering. Half the non-pledged cash donations collected are given to a charitable organization. In the month of April this charitable organization is the Nature Conservancy, which works to protect ecologically important lands and waters. If you wish to write a check to support the program make it out to the UUCE and write "Share the Plate" on the memo line.

On All-Music Sunday, we raised \$950 for the people of Japan who were devastated by the earthquake and tsunami. The funds were sent to the American Red Cross on March 28, who in turn will direct this gift to the Japanese Red Cross.

Those who missed this opportunity may donate online to the [American Red Cross](#) or the [Japanese Red Cross](#); if the latter, you may wish to convert dollars to yen by using a [calculator like this](#).



愛隣人
(Love Thy Neighbor)

Wheel of Life

We are saddened by the news of the death of Henny DuBois' sister, Alice, and by the news of the death of Kathy Hislip's father.

Let us keep them all in our thoughts.

Green Corner

Water Conservation at Home

1. Replace toilets built before 1992, the largest water user inside the home, with newer 1.6 gallon per flush toilets.

2. Unless you have a newer clothes washer that satisfies this standard, replace your clothes washer, the second largest water user in your house, with an Energy Star rated washer that has a Water Factor at or lower than 9.5. This saves both water and energy.

3. Check your indoor water using appliances and devices for leaks and have the leaks repaired. Check for unseen leaks by turning off all taps and other water using appliances and then look at your water meter. If it is still turning, chances are you have an unseen leak somewhere.

4. Plant/cover your yard with plants and groundcover that are drought resistant, which will require little or no watering.

5. If you must water your landscape, use "greywater", i.e., reuse water after taking a bath, after washing dishes in something that holds the water, or by gathering water from a clothes washer just before it drains.

6. Install low-flow faucet aerators on all your household faucets.

7. If you use a dishwasher, run it only when it is full of dishes. Use air drying to save energy.

8. To maximize showering efficiency, make sure you have installed a low-flow showerhead in all your showers. All showerheads manufactured in the U.S. in recent years must restrict flow to 2.5 gallons per minute or less.

Sources:

- [The California Urban Water Conservation Council, in cooperation with the U.S. E.P.A.](#)
- [The Environmental Task Force of Unitarian Universalists for Social Justice](#)



The All People's Inter-Faith Pantry indicates they are low on cereal, especially the kind that children shouldn't have. They can use juice and pancake mixes. Don't forget syrup.

Try to bring your donations for the Pantry on our Pantry Sunday, April 3.

Kudos

—to all who joined in the March 13 landscape & grounds party

—to the gardeners who have sown 500+ seeds to grow food for the hungry

—to Tom Scott for sharpening the church kitchen knives



Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes

16 February, 2011

Attending: Jennifer Day, Dave Clough, Betsy Thrasher, Andrea Schmidlin, Shari Smagatz, Sandy Webster (Executive Team)

I. Reports - The following reports were approved by consensus: Budget, Earmarked Funds, Executive Team (noting a typo on the Village Banking line). The Monitoring Report was reviewed.

- II. Unfinished Business
 - a. Staff Compensation Task Force Report – Jen moves to approve, Betsy seconds, approved unanimously.
 - b. Cell Tower Tax Payments (2008 & 2009) – ET continues to monitor to ensure completion

- III. New Business
 - a. Board Awareness – nothing to report
 - b. Review Service Calendar – approved
 - c. Draft Budget from Finance Committee – Board was not provided with a draft budget for this meeting.

d. Convene Task Force for Minister/Church Performance (per Governance Policies IV.A.1.) Board reviewed potential ideas for soliciting congregational feedback. Betsy and Steve will form the task force initially, and others may join in if interested/ time allows.

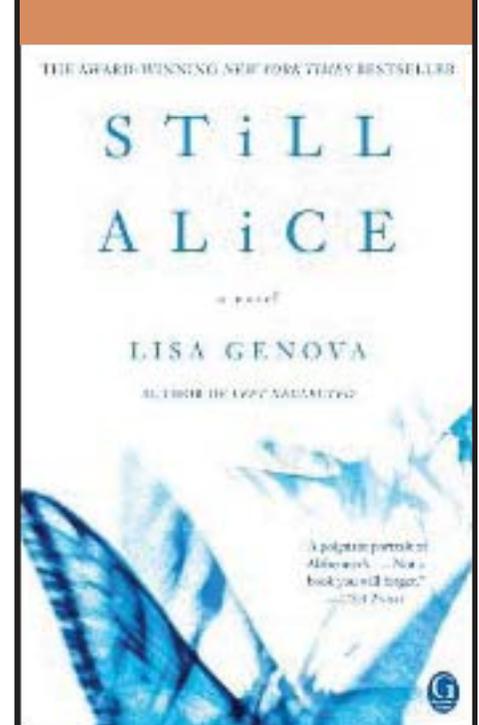
e. Canvass update – the year’s Canvass materials were distributed and reviewed by the Board.



- | | | | |
|----|-------------------|----|-------------------|
| 1 | Daniel Hislip | 14 | Dan Brosier |
| 1 | Jennifer Engel | 14 | Ava Seiberlich |
| 3 | Tanya Kindlon | 15 | Brianna Bedard |
| 4 | Tommy Schnidt | 17 | Bob Hamill |
| 5 | Sheena John | 18 | Charmaine Hamill |
| 6 | Bob Bedard | 20 | Ron Williams |
| 7 | Andrew Russel III | 20 | Kim Cecil |
| 11 | Mitch King | 26 | Elizabeth Closson |
| 14 | Donna Askins | 27 | Karen Leyba |

UUCE Readers

Afternoon Book Group will meet at 12:30 on Monday, April 25, at the home of Bonnie Schwank to discuss "Still Alice" by Lisa Genova.



Ways to Get in Touch

WEBSITE

www.uuce.org

E-MAIL

minister@uuce.org

administrator@uuce.org

newsletter@uuce.org

PHONE

847-888-0668

PHYSICAL LOCATION

39W830 Highland Avenue
three miles west of Randall Rd.

POSTAL MAIL

P. O. Box 1032

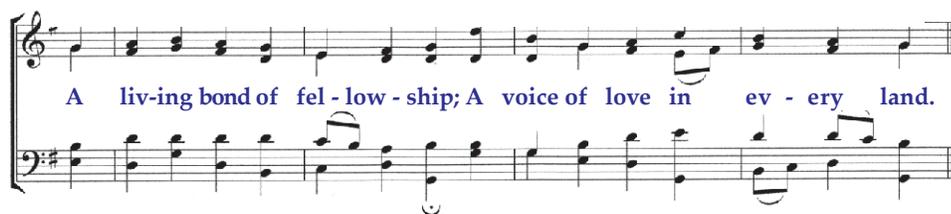
Elgin, IL 60121

Our Closing Circle

attr. to Louis Bourgeois, pub. 1551



Let peace en - cir - cle all the world; Let all on earth walk hand in hand.



A liv - ing bond of fel - low - ship; A voice of love in ev - ery land.



The Unitarian Universalist Church of Elgin

P. O. Box 1032 • Elgin, IL 60121

