

**SERMON  
TOPICS:**

- Dec. 6—What In This World?
- Dec. 13—The Light that Disperses the Dark
- Dec. 20—Following Yonder Star
- Dec. 27—The Year in Memory

**INSIDE THIS  
ISSUE:**

Sermon Topics	2
Year in Memory	2
Occasional Choir	2
Christmas Dinner	2
Thank You	2
They Opened Their Windows	3
Restroom Fund-raiser Update	4
December TED Talks	4
Holiday Bazaar	4
Freedom Indiana Rally	5
Upcoming Events	6
Circle Suppers	6
Support Teams	6

## An Invitation to Celebrate Chalica

Chalica is a uniquely UU holiday dreamed up by Darlene Marshall in 2005. Never heard of it? Not surprising as Chalica is still not widely known or celebrated. But, the number of congregations who observe the holiday is growing.

So, what is Chalica and when is it celebrated? Chalica is an invitation to spend a day with each of the Unitarian Universalist Principles, reflecting on their meaning and doing a good deed focused on each one. The celebration kicks-off on the first Monday in December, and goes through until Sunday. This year it is celebrated December 7 through 13. Each night of Chalica, a chalice is lit and homemade gifts may be given.

Each day of Chalica, I will send out an email to members and friends with a chalice lighting for the day. Here is a sampling of Chalica activities at UUCE and things you can do at home:

**Mon., Dec. 7—We reflect on the inherent worth and dignity of each person.** Watch *A Christmas Carol*—Scrooge learns that everyone is important.

**Tues., Dec. 8—We reflect on justice, equity, and compassion in human relations.** Join us at 6pm this evening for Kindness Elves. Sign-up for one of

UUCE's Social Action activities this year.



**Wed., Dec. 9—We reflect on acceptance of one another and encouragement to spiritual growth.** Join us at 4pm to walk at the New Harmony Labyrinth on Main Street. It is open from sunrise to sunset year-round and free to the public. (URL: [visitnewharmony.com/playexplore/52](http://visitnewharmony.com/playexplore/52))

**Thurs., Dec. 10—We reflect on a free and responsible search for truth and meaning.** Choose a religion and explore their winter holiday through their food; check out or buy a book about that religion and read it.

**Fri., Dec. 11—We reflect on the right of conscience and use of the democratic process.** Take a look at the UUA's webpage about our stance on voting rights and election reform.

**Sat., Dec. 12—We reflect on a world community of peace, liberty, and justice.** Join us at 1pm for a scavenger hunt at the Dickens Christmas and Winter Bazaar on Franklin Street just outside the West Branch library.

**Sun., Dec. 13—We reflect on respect for the interdependent web of life.** Join us at 1pm for a walk at Wesselman Nature Preserve (and bring your recycling if you want!) [www.wesselmannaturesociety.org/](http://www.wesselmannaturesociety.org/)

Chalica is your invitation to spend a day with each of our seven principles. Hope you can celebrate with us!

Wishing you all a warm and blessed holiday.

Ashley Perkins  
Director of  
Religious Exploration



### Sermon Topics

**Dec. 6—What In This World?** Chuck Meny will speak; Ed Howard worship leader.

**Dec. 13—**Tom Moor will address **The Light that Disperses the Dark.**

**Dec. 20—**Multigenerational service—**Following Yonder Star:** Many of us sing the carol “We Three Kings” at the holidays –but who were the three kings, the magi? This ser-

vice playfully explores the legend of the magi, reimagining the story to include their wives, who also make the journey to Bethlehem. The story invites listeners to reflect on what calls us forward on our own journeys. Sharon Dennis worship leader. *Plate share goes to the United Caring Shelter Dinner Fund.*

**Dec. 27—The Year in Memory.** *Potluck following service.*

### The Year in Memory—Service Request

The Worship Committee is seeking memories that have been made and pictures that have been taken throughout the year from UUCE activities (i.e. children’s activities, the picnic, special services, CAJE meetings, Fall Festival). These memories and pictures will be part our service on December 27. Please send your memories and pictures to Ashley Perkins at [aoa@uuevansville.org](mailto:aoa@uuevansville.org)

### UUCE Occasional Choir to Perform!

The UUCE Occasional Choir will sing on Sunday, December 6, 2015. This talented group of performers will be singing two selections from their vast repertoire. First is a beautiful work by Wendy Luella Perkins, arranged by Susan Peck, *We Give Thanks*. The second choral work is *Little Saint Nick*, arranged by Jay Althouse. The choir will rock with this up-tempo Beach Boys Christmas hit! This arrangement is pure enjoyment for both audience and choir.

### Christmas Dinner

Once again the Congregational Life Committee will again host Christmas dinner for all members, friends, and visitors on Christmas Day, Friday, December 25 at 2pm at the church. Turkey and ham will be provided. If planning to attend, please bring a salad, side dish, dessert, or rolls to complete the meal. There will be a sign-up sheet in the church foyer to indicate what food(s) you plan to bring and how many will be in your party. Please join us for a very happy Christmas Day dinner!

Even in the bleakest of blizzards,  
you can still cozy up with a warm  
cup of tea in front of a fireplace.

Even in the  
darkness and cold  
there's light and  
warmth somewhere  
in your life.

- Tim Atkins, Unitarian Universalist

Unitarian Universalism  
NURTURE Your Spirit. Help HEAL Our World.

### CROP Walk Thank You!

The Evansville CROP Hunger Walk, a walk that raises money for world hunger relief, took place on the beautiful Saturday morning of October 31st. UUCE was well represented among other churches in this interfaith event. Walkers from UUCE were David Fentress, John Schaeffer, Ashley Perkins, Paul and Jenny Maglinger, Teddye Thompson, as well as some children and pets of these members. The UUCE team raised a total of \$388 for this cause. So here’s a big thanks to everyone who walked and everyone who generously donated!

## They Opened Their Windows, an editorial by Sharon Dennis

(All of the quotes used in this article were posted on Facebook as people tried to process the carnage of Paris.)

He said he was listening to music when he saw them. They surveyed the crowd and started shooting. It was apparent that they wanted to kill as many people as they could. The young man who survived the shootings in the theatre told his story.

He said they all got down as low on the floor as they could. The shots continued for about fifteen minutes. Many died. When the shooters paused to reload, he took a chance. He ran. He got out and people opened their windows and said, "Come in here." Strangers opened their homes and offered safety. Strangers let him in.

When Ashley and I started to talk about this month's Compass I thought I knew what I wanted to write about. Then Paris happened. How could I not write about Paris? How could I not think about Paris? I watched CNN for hours. I followed what everyone was saying on Facebook as they searched, prayed, cried, informed and struggled for a way to find reason. A few people posted this quote from Winston Churchill. It seemed to help offer some possibility of a world that might endure.

*Good night, then, sleep to gather  
Strength for the morning, for the  
Morning will come. Brightly will it  
Shine on the brave and true. Kindly  
Upon all who suffer the cause;*

*Glorious upon the tombs of heroes—  
Thus will shine the dawn.*

*Viva La France*

Then, it began. A comment was made about Syrian refugees scheduled to arrive in New Orleans. The first post was just a statement but something about the tone was distinctly negative. What? In a time like this someone implied that perhaps he did not want to help victims of the monsters? Was that really what was intended? Could fear and selfishness be justified in any mind while watching the ongoing carnage? Could exhausted, depleted and desperate victims really be told that they are not welcome?

George Takei offered salve to my shaken soul.

*Tonight, hold your loved ones, and  
pray or wish for peace, not only from  
guns or bombs, but from hatred or  
fear. If it is our freedom and joy they  
seek to destroy, give them not that  
victory. Against the forces of dark-  
ness and terror, love and compassion  
shall always prevail.*

With these words I was able to sleep, perchance to dream of possibilities of new tomorrows. The next morning, though, things had gotten worse. People were pontificating about the imagined importance of keeping refugees out. Really? Who had we become as I slept? Are we not the country founded on giving another chance to the downtrodden and the abused? Do we not believe

in offering the victims of ISIS a window to safety?

More horrifically, governors of several states including Louisiana, Texas and, yes, Indiana were saying these victims who are seeking an open window were unwelcome in their states. They made it clear that they would not open their windows and call these victims to safety.

"Oh, that's different. Paris is different. We aren't talking about what happened in Paris. These people are from Syria."

Well, that's not how I see it. This is a war without nationality, without borders. It is Paris. It is Beirut. It is Bagdad. It is New York. A wall? Don't be ridiculous. We are all victims. All of us. Everywhere.

Our only hope is to become the helpers. We must pull together and keep one another safe. We must open our windows and call to safety those who are running from the shooters. Without one another we have no hope. We have no morality. We have not compassion. We have no chance.

As Fred Rogers says, in times of crisis, we should look for the helpers.

*When I was a little boy and I would  
see scary things in the news, my  
mother would say to me, "Look for  
the helpers. You will always find  
people who are helping."*

We should look for the helpers. We should, no we must, be the helpers. We must open our windows if we want our world to be safe.



**Goal: \$6,877**

## Restroom Fundraiser Update

Thanks to generous donations given so far, we are even closer to our goal of having Gender Neutral and ADA Accessible restrooms! Thanks to the "A Wedding Like That" film fundraiser totaling \$829, we are up to **\$5,946.77**. If you would like to make a special donation to this fund, please contact David Fentress.



### December TED Talks Discussion Group

Join us in watching and discussing intriguing TED Talks on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of the month at 7pm. "TED is a nonprofit devoted to spreading ideas, usually in the form of short, powerful talks. TED began in 1984 as a conference where Technology, Entertainment, and Design converged, and today covers almost all topics — from science to business to global issues." Everyone is welcome! For more information, contact Brian Sturgill at [mrbrian.sturgill@gmail.com](mailto:mrbrian.sturgill@gmail.com).

**THIS WEEK HAS BEEN CANCELLED—Dec. 3—The habits of happiness with Matthieu Ricard**  
[http://www.ted.com/talks/matthieu\\_ricard\\_on\\_the\\_habits\\_of\\_happiness](http://www.ted.com/talks/matthieu_ricard_on_the_habits_of_happiness)

What is happiness, and how can we achieve it? Biochemist turned Buddhist monk, Matthieu Ricard, talks about ways to train our minds in the habits of well-being, to help generate a true sense of serenity and fulfillment in our lives.

**Dec. 17—Let's prepare for our new climate with Vicki Arroyo**  
[http://www.ted.com/talks/vicki\\_arroyo\\_let\\_s\\_prepare\\_for\\_our\\_new\\_climate](http://www.ted.com/talks/vicki_arroyo_let_s_prepare_for_our_new_climate)

Vicki Arroyo tells us about preparing our homes and cities for the changing climate, with its risk of flooding, drought, and uncertainty. She illustrates bold projects being done from cities around the world. What can we do locally to improve life now and for generations ahead?

## Holiday Bazaar

Please join us for our First Annual Members and Friends Holiday Bazaar on December 6th after the service from 12-3pm. The RE children will be selling soup mixes and ornaments for their ARG fundraiser. There will be a variety of members and friends offering gift baskets, quilts, medicinal salves, Putz houses, baked goods, jewelry, artwork, ornaments, crocheted items, knitted items; handmade clothing, toys, and accessories for babies and children; Arbonne, Jamerry Nails, Norwex, Juice Plus, Discovery Toys, Thirty One and more. There will be soup, bacon brownies, roasted corn, and natural sodas available for purchase as well. **ALL ARE WELCOME!**



## Freedom Indiana Rally by Kaitlin Ulmer

The Freedom Indiana Organization Day Rally took place on a chilly, rainy Tuesday (November 17) at the Indiana State House. The rally's intention was to show state Representatives and Senators that Hoosiers want to put "four words and a comma" into the state constitution. Letters from across the Evansville community and the state were delivered to area representatives. As it stands now, the state constitution does not include sexual orientation or gender identity as populations who are protected from employment discrimination. This change we stand for is in the beginning stages and the effort may continue through spring 2016.

Walking into the state house, the Indiana Pastor's Alliance was leading the crowd with Christian music, praising God and giving him glory. We were wearing red to represent changing the constitution. The people singing along with the pastors, condemning the LGBTQ community were wearing green. I didn't notice this until later in the day, but this group was located on the South side of the building, on the first floor. Freedom Indiana was on

the exact opposite end of the building: on the fourth floor, North side. I thought this to be both a purposeful decision and symbolic division.

When noon came, members of Freedom Indiana, LGBTQ community members and allies gathered in front of a podium. There were four or five people who spoke of first or second hand accounts of personal discrimination, friends, or family members who have been left unprotected by the state constitution. All of these stories were eye opening, but one left me completely amazed.

Cameron is a young man who served under "Don't Ask Don't Tell" in the United States National Guard. His first-hand account of what it was like for him to identify as a male trapped in a female body, and trapped within a company of men and women whom he could not be his authentic self. It was devastating to hear. Most importantly, his courage and resilience to begin his transition and open up to his comrades, friends and family was awe inspiring.



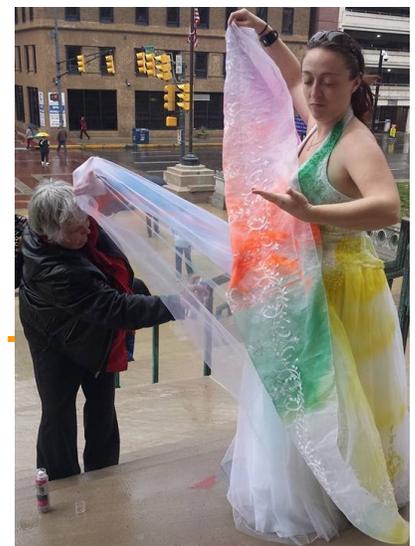
Members of UUCE writing letters for Freedom Indiana



Kaitlin getting a snapshot in front of the Indiana State House



Additional photographs from the rally



## Upcoming Events & Activities

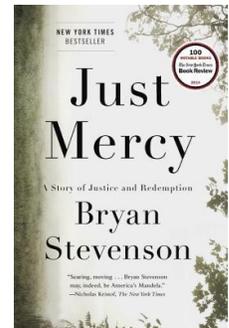
- |   |   |
|---|---|
| Fri., Dec. 4: 6-10pm Kids Night Out   | Sun., Dec. 13: 3pm OWL K-I  |
| Fri., Dec. 4: 7pm Drum Circle   | Mon., Dec. 14: 6pm Down to Earth  |
| Sat. Dec. 5: 1-4pm Church reserved  | Mon., Dec. 14: 7pm Strategic Planning Committee meeting                 |
| Sun., Dec. 6: 9am Adult Discussion Group  | Thurs., Dec. 17: 7pm TED Talks group                                    |
| Sun., Dec. 6: 12-3pm Holiday Bazaar   | Fri., Dec. 18: 3:30pm United Caring Shelter Dinner (sign-up in foyer)   |
| Mon., Dec. 7: 6pm Down to Earth addiction recovery support group  | Sun., Dec. 20: 9am Adult Discussion Group                               |
| Mon., Dec. 7: 7pm Board meeting   | Sun., Dec. 20: January Compass Submissions Due                          |
| Tues., Dec. 8: 6pm Kindness Elves (Chalica Day 2)   | Mon., Dec. 21: 6pm Down to Earth  |
| Wed., Dec. 9: 4pm Walk the New Harmony Labyrinth (Chalica Day 3)  | Mon., Dec. 21: 6pm Congregational Life Committee meeting                |
| Thurs., Dec. 10: 6:30pm Arts & Crafts Group   | Fri., Dec. 25: 2pm Christmas Dinner (sign-up in foyer)                  |
| Fri., Dec. 11: 6pm Church rental  | Sun., Dec. 27: 12:30pm Pagan Study Group                                |
| Sat., Dec. 12: 1pm Scavenger Hunt at Dickens Christmas and Winter Bazaar on Franklin Street (Chalica Day 6) | Mon., Dec. 28: 6pm Down to Earth  |
| Sun., Dec. 13: 1pm Walk at WNS (Chalica Day 7)  | Tues., Dec. 29: 11:30am Book Club— <i>Just Mercy</i> by Bryan Stevenson |



### Unitarian Universalist Church of Evansville

2910 East Morgan Avenue  
Evansville, IN 47711  
812-474-1704

Service on Sundays at 10:00am  
Youth RE on Sundays at 10:30am



### Circle Suppers

Our next circle supper will be January 23. Sign-ups will be available December 20 through January 10. Check your calendars now so you are ready to act when the time comes.

### Support Teams

UUCE has support teams in place to assist those members who need assistance with activities of daily living, such as grocery shopping, lawn care, meal preparation, etc., due to illness, death in the family, or other circumstance. If you or someone else needs such help, please notify Sharon Dennis, Bev Tonso, or Teddye Thompson.

#### Board of Directors:

President  
President Elect  
Secretary  
Secretary Elect  
Treasurer  
Treasurer Elect  
Director  
Director  
RE Director

Sharon Dennis  
Nancy Higgs  
Jasmine Sturgill  
Shelley Woodward  
David Fentress  
Crystal Folz  
Kaitlin Ulmer  
Tom Moor  
Ashley Perkins

#### Other Volunteers:

Building and Grounds  
Communications  
Congregational Life  
Social Justice  
Stewardship  
Worship Associates  
Youth Leader  
Newsletter Editor

John Schaeffer  
Chris Norrington  
Chris Norrington  
Chris Norrington  
Chris Norrington  
Tom Moor  
Mary Helen Weldy  
Sharon Dennis  
info@ueevansville.org  
Ashley Perkins  
www.ueevansville.org

Webmaster  
Website