

Monday, May 19, 2025 at 4:28:13 PM Central Daylight Time

Subject: Chicago Area UU Council Newsletter

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From: Mike Gilley

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January 2023 Newsletter

Chicago Area Unitarian Universalist Council (CAUUC)

In this issue:

- JAN 28 - CAUUC Conference: Finding Our Center
- Affinity Groups - Connect with area UUs -join now!
- Calendar of Upcoming Events
- Volunteer Opportunities - we need you!

CAUUC Winter Conference - Jan 28th 9am-2pm



CAUUC Winter 2023 In-Person Conference

Finding Our Center

A journey to the central values the Article II Study Commission have presented for our consideration

Keynote Speaker: Rev. Marcus Fogliano, Project Manager to the Office of the President of the Unitarian Universalist Association

Date: Saturday, January 28th 9am-2pm

Location: Countryside Church, 1025 N Smith St, Palatine, IL

Register on the web at uuchicagoarea.org/registration

CAUUC invites all Chicago Area UU leaders and congregation members to an important day of learning and sharing. Speakers will talk about the work of the Article II Study Commission, the vision and rationale behind the proposed Article II changes, and how to encourage thoughtful and informed discussions within our own congregations on this relevant topic. Attendees of the CAUUC Winter Conference can expect a rich and rewarding experience, regardless of their level of knowledge coming into the event. We offer a special welcome to any interested UU high school students who would like to join and bring their own curiosity and perspectives to the larger discussion.



Keynote Speaker: Rev. Marcus Fogliano

Rev. Marcus is the Project Manager to the Office of the President of the Unitarian Universalist Association. They support the Office of the President in the management of key institutional initiatives and priorities of the Frederick-Gray Administration, across UUA departments.

Marcus also brings insight from their time as the Project Manager of the [Commission on Institutional Change](#) (CoIC), to the implementation of its recommendations, addressing racism and white supremacy within our institutions. As well as, project management for the [Article II Study Commission](#), launched at the Virtual General Assembly 2020.

See their bio at uuchicagoarea.org/conference

Rev. Marcus Fogliano will be joined by panelists for Q&A with conference participants.



Rev. Eileen Wiviott, Sr. Minister
Unitarian Church of Evanston

Dr. Mary Lamb Shelden, DLRE
Countryside Church UU



Click on the button to register!

For additional details and to register,
visit: uuchicagoarea.org/conference

Questions? Email us at cauuc@uuchicagoarea.org



Learn • Share • Connect



Many CAUUC conference attendees have provided response to our feedback survey question: What was the best part of the event? Here are representative responses: Breakout sessions, connecting with people from other congregations, conversations with people, sharing with people, learning what's going on in other congregations, hearing directly from leaders about what they are doing and their challenges.

Affinity Groups: Facilitating Learning, Collaboration, and Collective Action

They also gave feedback indicating an interest to stay in contact with each other or be able to reconnect. This feedback led us to create affinity groups--groups for UUs that share a common interest or role.

CAUUC's Affinity Group strategy offers 3 types of person-to-person interactions:

- Virtual gatherings at our semi-annual conferences,
- Ad hoc virtual gatherings using Zoom, and
- Online discussion forums using Google Groups

The online Google Groups that we have created thus far include:

- UUChicagoArea-**Board and Leadership Development**
- UUChicagoArea-**Buildings and Grounds**
- UUChicagoArea-**Lifespan Religious Education**
- UUChicagoArea-**Membership**
- UUChicagoArea-**Stewardship**
- UUChicagoArea-**Social Justice** [Social Justice/Environmental Justice]
- UUChicagoArea-**Social Media**
- UUChicagoArea-**TechTeam**
- UUChicagoArea-**Young Adults**

Want to get plugged into an Affinity Group right now? We're happy to add you so you can get communicating! If you are familiar with using Google Groups, you can search for the groups listed above and request membership. If you are not familiar with use of Google Groups, please send an email and we'll get you registered. Click on [REGISTER ME FOR A CAUUC AFFINITY GROUP](#) to launch your email with a pre-populated email message to request membership in the groups you're interested in. If you are familiar with Google Groups, you can go to groups.google.com and search for our group names listed above.

Calendar of Upcoming Events



If you use Google Calendar, subscribe to our calendar by adding "chicagoareauu@gmail.com"

Chicago Area UU Council (CAUUC) Events

- JAN 18: CAUUC Winter Conference 9am-2pm at Countryside Church UU and online. Register [here](#).

UU Prison Ministry of Illinois (UUPMI) Events

- None scheduled

UU Action Network of Illinois (UUANI) Events

FEB/MAR - [Environment Interest Group](#)

Denominational/Regional UU Events

- MidAmerica Region Events Calendar [info](#)

Coalition Events with Other Faith Traditions

Volunteer Opportunities - We need you!

Is volunteer work part of your spiritual practice? CAUUC has several roles we are looking to fill. The CAUUC board meets virtually on the 2nd Saturday of each month from 9am-11am.

- **Congregational Liaison** - if your congregation doesn't have a member on the CAUUC board, the congregational liaison is a communications channel between your congregation and CAUUC.
- **CAUUC Board Member/Officer** - Board member candidates are put forth by the CAUUC Nominating Committee and voted on at our Annual Meeting (May). Board members are the operations backbone of CAUUC. We plan and run our spring and fall conferences, manage our social media platforms, and stay attuned to the needs of congregations in pursuit of our mission of growing UUism and strengthening congregations.
- **Conference Volunteers** - When we meet in person, we always have needs of volunteers to assist with music and worship, registration, food planning and kitchen help.
- **Reporter/Writer/Photographer/PR** - We also need people to help with news stories, picture taking, and event reporting to help with our various

communications platforms.

- **Website/Application Development** - We are also looking for people that have technical expertise to help us stay current with new technologies that can help UUs communicate, organize, and locate people with similar interests or roles.

If any of these sound like something you're interested in or you'd like to learn more about, please contact us at: cauuc@uuchicagoarea.org

CAUUC Mission Statement

The Chicago Area Unitarian Universalist Council is comprised of UU congregations located in the greater Chicago Area. Our mission is to support member congregations by working together to achieve a common goal of promoting Unitarian Universalist principles. Our work involves:



- increasing the visibility of the UU community to the greater Chicago community such as through radio advertising, social media work, and the web;
- promoting advocacy of social justice;
- strengthening our congregations through sharing of programs, particularly for leadership development; and
- entering into appropriate coalitions with other faith traditions which share our core values.

For more information about serving as a CAUUC congregational representative or to get involved in other ways, contact us at CAUUC@uuchicagoarea.org

CAUUC Web Site: uuchicagoarea.org

[VISIT CAUUC ON THE WEB](http://uuchicagoarea.org)



CAUUC@uuchicagoarea.org
