

Welcome New Members May 2020!



LAURA CUZILLO—Laura grew up in New Jersey, where, as a teen, she first attended a Unitarian church. She moved to Chicago to attend the University of Chicago where she earned a BA and MBA. She is retired from a long career at UofC where she held several administrative and management posts. She is a serious home cook, avid theater goer, art lover, world traveler, scuba diver, and retired karate black belt.

ADRIENNE and DAVE DOLL—The Dolls are very excited to be joining the UCE family. Adrienne and Dave are both teachers in the Chicago Public Schools and love being in education and can credit the profession for helping them come together as a couple. Penelope just turned 5 and is as kind as she is creative, she loves cheetahs and the cat in the hat because he is a rascalion which is also her favorite word. Mari is 2 and half but if you ask her she is 3, she is a motor mouth with personality for days, she'll keep you on your toes and then knock you over with the most touching moments of affection. Thank you all for welcoming us with open arms its made it so much easier to open our hearts.



ASHLEY KING (Right)—Ashley King is a graduate student in the Department of Religious Studies at Northwestern University. Her research focuses on the spiritual reflection of transgender people. She wants to write, teach, and mentor other trans scholars for the rest of her life. She lives with her partner, Eda Uca, in Evanston.

EDA UCA (Left) —Eda Uca is a first generation Turkish/Arab American and graduate student in American religions at Northwestern University. Whereas others in her department have dedicated their lives to edifying and significant ideas, Eda likes to think deeply about 19th century American equivalents to Joe Exotic/Tiger King, early -Donald Trump (like when he was selling steaks), Pastor Jones (he wanted to burn Qurans to commemorate 9/11), and other D-list celebrities and problematic faves. She's excited to be joining UCE with her girlfriend Ashley King and the first ever online new members class.



VANESSA KOVACHY—Vanessa Kovachy is a first generation Haitian-American born in Boston, MA. She lived in California for 8 years before moving to Chicagoland. She's married to her lovely husband, Tim, and has two kitties. Vanessa is a school psychologist, keen chef, and dance class enthusiast. She is very excited to join the congregation and learn more about her faith and UU life.



DIANE MARKEL (Left) —She joined the White Bear (MN) UU Church January 2009 and became involved in numerous adult education offerings as well as choir, friendship dinners, sharing circles, helping with the annual monthly homeless shelter housed in the church. She moved to Chicago May 2019 at the request of her daughter and son-in-law—they asked her to retire from her Alcohol/Drug Counseling job of 10 years to care for their son—her first grandson. She found UCE and became involved right away in choir, friendship dinners and a Covenant Group. She's got much more to learn about her new Beloved Community and looks forward to getting to know us! Her current passion is providing Energy Healing through Healing Touch. She's completed 4 of the 5 levels of training and is using remote healing due to the Covid-19 just now.

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MARLENE MCARTHUR—She's been UU for 20 years and raised her now 23 y/o daughter Lia as a UU. In the 3 years since she moved, she's contemplated joining UCE and coming back to her stomping grounds. Web/UX/UI/Graphic Design Consulting & Project Management is what she does. She's focusing on helping small brick and mortar business get online now only asking for what they can afford since times are difficult. Looking forward to meeting everyone!



JUDY POLIFKA—Judy is a fun loving soul who appreciates good humor and puns. She enjoys playing a variety of musical instruments and creating art from found objects. She is a retired social worker. Judy is looking forward to becoming a member of UCE.

CRAIG SPIDLE—Craig has been attending with his wife Kristin for quite some time and has finally decided to officially join (funny thing, he's already in the member directory, accompanying Kristin's listing). Spiritually, he has found UCE to be nourishing and he feels a contentment among you that has grown over time and is special to him. He is semi-retired from working in the arts (acting & teaching), and he can offer time. He is interested in helping to organize the Rummage Sale and work with our young adults to develop skills in communication and to develop their confidence.



Rima Touré-Tillery—Rima lives in Evanston with her wonderful husband and her two awesome children. She is a teacher, a researcher, an eternal student. She loves spending time with family and community. In her spare time, she enjoys listening to stories, being with nature, experiencing music and art, and finding unexpected things in unexpected places. She feels fortunate to have found the UCE community on this spiritual journey.

JESSICA and ROB WINGADER—Jessica was drawn to the love and service components of UCE's mission and is looking forward to exploring ways to live in and serve the UCE community. Rob is excited to join the UCE community after years of being "unchurched," as his childhood church would call it. Jessica and Rob have been happily partnered for 16 years and they share adventures with daughter, Chloe, son, Bram, and dog, Maggie. Jessica hates cooking and loves spending time outside; she is open to any Netflix recommendations. Rob is currently the Master of his Masonic Lodge in Evanston, and has affinities for quantum physics and fountain pens.

