



New Garden Community Church (Unitarian Universalist) - a labor-peace church

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August 31, 2006

"Love for the Earth, Justice for the People"

Calendar:

- **Sunday, September 3, 11am** – We celebrate **Labor Day** with our annual **picnic in Union Park**, corner of Warren and Ashland, with music and a labor speaker. Please bring a side dish; we'll have brats to grill and lemonade.
- **Sunday, September 10, 6pm** – gather in UE Hall for homecoming and **"My Summer Reading"** expanded. Why when things look bleak and all my friends are cynical, I am still hopeful – now more than ever.
- **Tuesday, September 12 and 26, 7pm** – **NVC group** begins again, 2nd and 4th Tuesdays. We're joining an on-line group that provides live NVC experiences and a kind of "Ask Amy" approach. Phone Jean for location, 312-405-9470.

My Summer Reading

Oh, boy! Here's an author who can lay out all the things that seem to be wrong, and then give us an explanation and some hope that we can help create a different outcome than the planetary destruction, hunger, war and mayhem that seem to threaten.

David Korten, in his newest book, *The Great Turning*, describes how we have been suffering under a system of human organization that

grows naturally out of normal human psychological and spiritual development – if it were to stop at 8 years old, that is. He calls it *Empire*.

More and more of us, he says, are moving to a level of development that recognizes the commonality of all human beings, and the value of the entire Earth as a living system.

The value system that is respectful of others, that operates by cooperation, instead of coercion and domination, that believes in the human capacity for self-control and self-development, he calls *Earth Community*.

One of our biggest tasks in the coming years is to learn how to speak with one another – those of us coming from different value systems – so that we can understand others' very real concerns (and not pooh-pooh them, as too often happens), and so that we can articulate our own concerns in a way that those others can understand us.

There are a lot of exciting events coming up this fall around these notions of consciousness, and I hope to see many of you there – I would like to explore these ideas together.

peace, Jean

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