



First Unitarian Universalist CONGREGATION OF ANN ARBOR

This Week at UUA December 3 - 9, 2020

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Updated submissions policy: Please submit your announcements for the *Weekly News* through [this form](#) by Tuesday at 5pm EST. The *Weekly News* is distributed each week on Thursday. *For the Weekly News December 17 - 23, the deadline will be Sunday, December 13.*

Questions? [Watch this video](#) on how to submit to the *Weekly News* or email Communications Ministry Specialist Kari Gottfried at communications@uuaa.org.

Support the ministries of UUA:
Make an online offering today!



The Question Box

Sunday, December 6, 11:30am

[Join us live](#) or [watch the service](#) at your leisure any point throughout the week. This Sunday, we will have a special "live" question box service, where the worship team shares some of the community's spiritual questions and responds in-the-moment. You can [ask your questions here](#), up until noon this Friday.

Let your friends know you'll be attending by RSVPing to the [Facebook event at this link](#).

Then join us on Sunday at 11:30am Eastern at uuaa.org/service. This week, we are sharing the collection with the [House by the Side of the Road](#). Scroll down to read more.

After the service, join us for a Zoom social hour where we can check in as a community and further discuss the service. Use this link to take part: uuaa.org/socialhour.

Congregational input on worship themes: Looking ahead to 2021, our theme for January is "Imagine." What spiritual, ethical, and/or moral questions do you have related to this topic? [Ask them here!](#)

Need more worship in your life? Watch past services, music, and stories in our website archive.



Upcoming Events

Congregational Life Hour

Wednesday, 6:00pm

Join Coordinator of Congregational Life Quiana Perkins for a chance to connect with our UUAA community. Email quiana@uuaa.org with questions.

[Join the Congregational Life Zoom here.](#)



Board of Trustees November Update

Learn about the BoT's most recent vote in favor of moving some of UUAA's funds to the UU Common Endowment Fund. [Click here to view.](#)



UUAA Realm -- Our New Online Database/Directory/Giving/Communication Platform

UUAA is moving to a new kind of record-keeping solution called Realm. It not only serves the administrative needs of our staff, but it also offers some exciting opportunities to support the way you are involved in the congregation. Realm promises to improve work life for our ministers and staff and will make it easier for our UUAA

family to connect with each other, keep up with what's going on, and grow as a community. [To learn more, click here.](#)



QBuddies: Round 2

The QBuddy Program is a way for people in our UUAA community to connect during this COVID-19 period of increased isolation. When COVID-19 restrictions started last spring, UUAA began a very active Q(uarantine) Buddy program that continued through mid-summer.

Six months later we are still in the pandemic -- and still in need of connection. So, we've relaunched the QBuddy program for a second round, and we hope you'll join us!

[Sign up for a QBuddy here.](#)

Questions? [Download this letter](#) or email theresa@uuaa.org for more information.



Chalice Lighters Needed

You are invited to be a chalice lighter in upcoming worship services! You (alone or with family/others) can submit a video recording of you lighting whatever chalice you use at home. This is video only -- you do not need to say anything! You may submit these recordings at any time.

[Guidelines for recording and submitting videos](#)

We look forward to your virtual presence in worship in the coming months. In peace, [the UUAA Worship Team.](#)



Humanist Study Groups

Thursday, December 3, 2:00pm

Humanism has a long history in our congregation; a lively group of Humanists has been meeting for over 20 years. We are

currently gathering on the second and fourth Monday evenings and/or first and third Thursday afternoons to discuss topics relating to Humanist philosophy, theology, morals, ethics, reasoning, science -- the list is long and varied. All are welcome, regardless of theology or philosophy. On December 3 we will discuss a David Brooks column about conversations and a Yo-Yo Ma interview.

All meetings are now virtual. To get on our mail list, get the login information, or ask any other questions, send a query to humanistgroupinfo@uuaa.org.



Sharing the Collection

Sunday, December 6

This month, we will share our collection with the [House by the Side of the Road](#), a group established 50 years ago to provide clothing, bedding, and small household items free of charge to people in need, primarily in the Ann Arbor/Ypsilanti area.

They have served about 2000 people/year over the last two years. This year has been especially challenging because of COVID-19. They are 100% volunteer supported, their normal fund-raising event couldn't be held, and people in need now have to make appointments to come to avoid crowding. Despite all this, they are averaging well over 100 people/month during COVID times. The pandemic has not reduced the need but has challenged their ability to respond to the need.

Questions?

Mary Danforth, House Manager: m19danforth44@gmail.com.



Community of Writers Congregational Zoom Reading

Sunday, December 13

1:00pm - 2:30pm

The UUA Community of Writers invites you to share in a Congregational Zoom Reading of our writings from the year 2020. Come enjoy our stories, personal reflections, poems, and memoir excerpts. Each writer will read 5 minutes; many will have their writings screen-shared for all to follow as they read. We'll reserve time for everyone to chat at the end! [Click here for the Zoom link](#).

Questions? Email Mary Lund at mlund@mi.rr.com or Sandy Kunkle at sandykunkle@gmail.com.



A Winter Celebration

Saturday, December 12

1:00pm-3:00pm

Celebrate Winter, Our UUAA Community and Land, and the Year's End!

Join a family-friendly, small-group walk through the UUAA "Back 40." **Sign up here.** Groups are limited to 10 and will set off at half-hour intervals. Masks and distancing required. Dress for the weather.

- Contribute to the UUAA Winter Altar. Bring something to add to the outdoor Winter Altar. Add a tribute to nature, a memento of a loved one, a note of gratitude, a symbol of loss, an expression of hope. This community creation will be collected outside and will be accessible from your car. Drop by anytime between 1:00pm and 3:00pm to add your offering.
- Pick up a UUAA Ritual Bag. If you have been wondering where you will get your candle for the Christmas Eve service or how to obtain your dissolving paper for our annual New Year's service, think no more. UUAA will be handing out bags containing items for upcoming services. These will be distributed to you in your car or from a grab-and-go table outside. (Not able to make it on December 12 to pick up your ritual bag? Check the next *Weekly News* to see when they will be available for pickup during the week.)

Questions? Email FridayFun@uuaa.org.

[Read more about how UUAA is celebrating the winter holiday season here.](#)

Join Outdoors Womyn



Outdoors Womyn is a small group that meets outdoors with COVID precautions for walking, hiking, bonfires, kayaking, and occasional bike rides (in warmer months). We also have members who would love cross-country skiing or snowshoeing if nature provides the weather for it. If you

identify as a woman and want to be on our email distribution list, just send a message to outdoors-women@uuaa.org (your message will bounce back but it will be sent to the admin). Beware there is a fair bit of Reply-All but no spam.



Sale on Equal Exchange Nuts and Mango!

Our sales of Equal Exchange coffee, teas, and chocolates are continuing through the pandemic, and although we've earned over \$2,000 for UUA, some products are not moving. Our

nuts and dried mango are at or nearing their "best buy" dates, so we are offering them at half price. To see what is in stock, [check our inventory here](#). We are once again offering our homemade reusable holiday gift bags and will soon have two new fair trade items for your holiday festivities: chocolate chips and flavored drip coffee! For more info or to order, email us at uuaaequalexchangeorder@gmail.com. Time for a coffee break!



Thank You Letter to UUA President Rev. Susan Frederick-Gray

UUs for Justice in the Middle East invite you to read the letter thanking Rev. Susan Frederick-Gray, President of the Unitarian Universalist Association, for joining 26 other faith community leaders in [a letter to members of Congress](#) opposing

Israeli annexation of Palestinian land. The letter was sponsored by [Churches for Middle East Peace](#) in response to plans by Israel to annex 30% of the occupied Palestinian West Bank, a violation international law.

[Click here to add your name to the UUA letter thanking Rev. Frederick-Gray.](#)

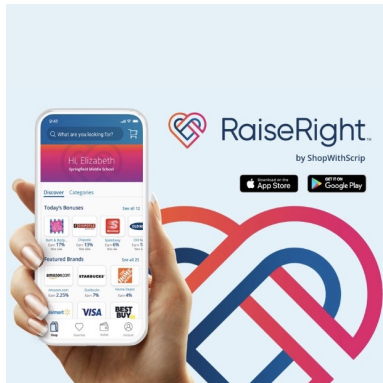


Holiday Wishes at Alpha House

Alpha House supports families for one year after they move out of the shelter. For the holiday season, the shelter is requesting support so that parents can buy either food, gas, or their children's presents. Please go to uuaa.org/giving and donate to the line item "Holiday

Wishes - Alpha House/IHN" (second on the list). The church will use donations to this item to purchase Meijer gift cards for Alpha House ordered through the scrip program. It's a Win-Win-Win -- the families get assistance, you get a deduction on your taxes, and the church gets the rebate on the scrip.

Questions? Contact sandy.eyl@gmail.com.



Scrip Delivered to Your Home!

Scrip fundraising has been sorely impacted by the pandemic. Because we can't be together Sundays in the Social Hall, your access to physical gift cards has been difficult. However, with the new RaiseRight mobile app from **ShopwithScrip**, you can purchase scrip

and have it shipped to your home. [Here is an easy-to-follow 3-minute tutorial video](#) to get you started.

The video explains how to:

- Download the app from the app store
- Enroll in an online account with UUA (enrollment code F9F626FE2L951)
- Shop for gift cards
- Set up online payment
- Have cards shipped directly to your home

Questions? Contact Carolyn Barber at cmbponyclub@sbcglobal.net.



Interweave Hiatus

As a moment of honoring the needs of the community, Interweave will be on hiatus starting December 1, 2020 until March 2021. We anticipate reconvening the group in early March to plan for Trans Day of Visibility. Email quiiana@uuaa.org with questions.



UUA Groups: Reserve a Zoom Room

Submit your [Zoom room reservations here.](#)

Questions? Email Debita Graham at room@uuaa.org.

Quick Links:

[UUA Website](#) | [Social Justice at UUA](#) | [View past services](#)
[Make your pledge](#) | [UUA Events Calendar](#)



Other Links:

[UUA.org](#) | [MidAmericaUUA.org](#)
[Side with Love](#) | [UUCSJ](#) | [DRUUMM](#) | [BLUU](#)



Contact Us

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