



# First Unitarian Universalist CONGREGATION OF ANN ARBOR

This Week at UUAA  
November 19 - 25, 2020

*If you are unable to view this entire email, scroll down to the bottom and click "view entire message."*

**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.

Please make any submissions to the *Monthly Newsletter* by November 21st at 5pm through [this form](#). The *Monthly Newsletter* will be distributed at the end of the month.

Questions? Email Communications Ministry Specialist Kari Gottfried at [communications@uuaa.org](mailto:communications@uuaa.org).

**Support the ministries of UUAA:**  
**Make an online offering today!**



**Join us this week for worship!**

*Sunday, November 22, 11:30am ET*

[Join us live](#) or [watch the service](#) at your leisure any point throughout the week.

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 [www.uuaa.org/service](http://www.uuaa.org/service).

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](http://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, songs, and stories in [our website archive](#).**



## Upcoming Events

*All in Eastern Standard Time.*

UUAA November Board of Trustees Meeting  
*Thursday, 7:00pm*

UUAA Board meetings are open to the public. You must [register in advance](#) here.

Transgender Day of Remembrance

*Friday, 2:00pm*

UUAA acknowledges Transgender Day of Remembrance. We know this can be a tender time for our community as we grieve those we have lost over the past year. Please join the larger UUA community in a dedicated chapel service with special guests Rev. Jaelynn Scott and Rev. Mykal Slack. [Register here](#).

Newcomer Chalice Circle

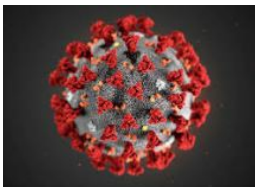
*Saturday, 1:00pm*

If you are new to UUAA in the past year, join us to delve more deeply into the UU principles and experience a small group spiritual discussion. Sign up using [this link](#) by Monday, November 16 or email Welcome Ministries Coordinator Hannah Hotchkiss at [hannah@uuaa.org](mailto:hannah@uuaa.org). You will receive a Zoom link and reflective reading once you have registered.

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](mailto:quiana@uuaa.org) with questions. [Join the Zoom here](#).



## COVID-19 Update

Read our November update from the COVID-19 Advisory Team [here](#).

**Building Our Vision: #RoadTo2050**

## Stewardship Spotlight: Jennifer Ellsworth



Our third stewardship spotlight centers on Jennifer, who has been a part of the UUAA community since the early 2000s! She loves the variety of opportunities for personal growth and community care within the congregation. Jennifer really values being among people with similar values and so much to share and teach others. She especially values the depth, breadth, and quality of the music program. This year, Jennifer decided to pledge because she knows the importance of sustaining this community. She says that "others pledged before me, and because they did I found a spiritual home at UUAA when I needed one. My pledge each year is a thank you and my way of assisting with UUAA continuing for others in the future."

Jennifer, we are so grateful you are a part of this community, and we are grateful for all of the generous gifts that you and others give so we can continue to be that spiritual home for seekers of all kinds. Thank you for pledging!

For a chance to be featured in the next stewardship spotlight, make sure you've made your pledge and then email Kari Gottfried, Communications Ministry Specialist, at [kari@uuaa.org](mailto:kari@uuaa.org). Thank you for all of your support!

[Make your pledge here.](#)



## Coffee Project Holiday Gift Bags Are Here!

Our sales of fair trade Equal Exchange coffee, chocolate, tea, and more are continuing from off-site, for pickup in central Ann Arbor or delivery.

As in past years, get a handmade, reusable, cloth gift bag with any purchase!

To order, email us at [uuaaequalexchangeorder@gmail.com](mailto:uuaaequalexchangeorder@gmail.com) (that's "UUAA Equal Exchange Order" all run together). Place an order for local delivery as a gift and we'll include a gift tag! See what is currently in stock here (<https://tinyurl.com/uuaa-ee>).

BUILDING OUR VISION



#RoadTo2050

## Building Our Vision: #RoadTo2050 Update

The election is over and as we watch it unfold, there is a renewed excitement about what our future holds. We continue to fight for social justice and as we begin to plan our vision for UUA, your financial support is more important than ever! As of November 17, UUA has gratefully received 208 pledges totally over \$720,000. This is just over half of the 404 pledges received last year and 66% of the way toward our goal of \$1.1 million. A huge "thank you" to all who have made your pledge.

If you have not done so yet, please consider the tremendous gift of supporting this beloved community by making your pledge today!

You can read more and make your financial commitment for 2021 at [uuaa.org/pledge](https://uuaa.org/pledge).



### UUA Virtual Thanksgiving Gathering

*Thursday, November 26*

*2:30pm - 4:30pm*

UUA invites you to virtually celebrate Thanksgiving with the UUA family! Bring your favorite dessert and drink for a relaxed conversation centered on traditions and blessings.

Questions or Zoom link:

Hannah Hotchkiss, Welcome Ministries Coordinator,  
[hannah@uuaa.org](mailto:hannah@uuaa.org)

Quiana Perkins, Congregational Life Coordinator,  
[quiana@uuaa.org](mailto:quiana@uuaa.org).



### UUA Virtual Thanksgiving Walks

*Friday, November 27*

Join your UUA family for a post-giving community walk: lay- or staff-led walks that adhere to all COVID-19 safety precautions (mask must be worn/social distancing/limited group size) throughout Washtenaw County.

[Sign up for a walk here](#) -- consider the time, distance, and terrain before signing up. Walks are limited to six participants for safety.

November 24: Check your emails. We will share your walk leader's name and contact number, parking information, and up-to-date COVID health precautions.

November 27: Grab your mask and take a walk!

Questions?

Hannah Hotchkiss, Welcome Ministries Coordinator,  
[hannah@uuaa.org](mailto:hannah@uuaa.org)

Quiana Perkins, Congregational Life Coordinator,  
[quiana@uuaa.org](mailto:quiana@uuaa.org).

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## Thank-Scrip-ing Days

*November 19 & 20*

Participating families earn up to 20% with 120+ bonuses on eGift cards and reloaded gift cards. For the first time ever, you have an extra day to take advantage of Thank-Scrip-ing Day bonuses, November 19 and 20. Using scrip raises money for the church when you buy the things you need to buy anyway!

You must have an online Shop with Scrip account to participate -- [sign up here](#).

Questions? Contact Carolyn Barber at [cbarber@umich.edu](mailto:cbarber@umich.edu).

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## Alpha House: Thanksgiving Service Week

*November 23 - 29*

Alpha House is an emergency shelter for families temporarily experiencing homelessness in Washtenaw County. Our host week is November 23 - 29. A few cooks for Thanksgiving turkey and a few dishes for Saturday and Sunday are still needed.

Sign up online at [tinyurl.com/AHNov20](https://tinyurl.com/AHNov20) to donate a dish (curbside), heat meals (kitchen only), oversee activity time (outdoor option if weather allows), or provide financial support. We are all working together to keep residents and volunteers safe during COVID.

Questions? Contact [AlphaHouse@uuaa.org](mailto:AlphaHouse@uuaa.org).



## Alleviating Food Insecurity in Washtenaw County

Washtenaw County has seen a dramatic uptick in the number of people seeking emergency food

as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. The Mindful Eating Team urges UUAA members to support organizations addressing this challenge.

Food Gatherers, our primary food rescue and distribution organization, announced two events to raise awareness and funds to meet the continuing need.

- November 16 - 29: Busch's food and fund drive. Visit any Busch's store to participate.
- Early December: "Rockin' for the Hungry." Stay tuned for the date and further details at [www.foodgatherers.org](http://www.foodgatherers.org).



## Interfaith Council for Peace & Justice (ICPJ): Online Auction

*November 18 - 30*

[The ICPJ](#) is hosting an online auction. Give a gift to ICPJ and a gift to yourself or a loved one through a "gifting double-dip." This replaces the annual harvest dinner fundraiser through which many UUAA congregants come together to share a meal and celebrate the work of justice leaders in our community. [Use this link to get to the auction!](#)

If you're interested in supporting ICPJ's work, contact Jeannine LaPrad, ICPJ/UUAA liaison, [jlaprad@umich.edu](mailto:jlaprad@umich.edu).



## 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 a 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](#) for more information or email [theresa@uuaa.org](mailto:theresa@uuaa.org).

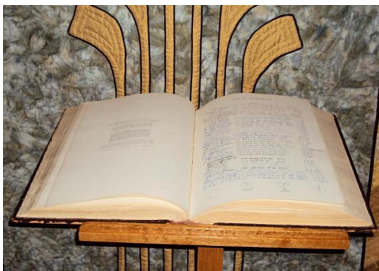


### Chalice Lighters Needed

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 UUA Worship Team](#).



### Introduction to Our Faith

*Saturday, December 5 and 12  
10:00am - Noon*

This two-session class launches you on your way toward membership and/or a deeper understanding of this congregation and faith. We will share our spiritual journeys, learn about the history of Unitarian Universalism and this congregation, and explore your calling. We will also discuss how to get involved and what the meaning and responsibilities of membership are. This class is a prerequisite to official membership.

[Register by Monday, November 30](#) or email Welcome Ministries Coordinator Hannah Hotchkiss at [hannah@uuaa.org](mailto:hannah@uuaa.org).

### Humanist Study Groups

*Monday, November 23, 7:00pm*



Thursday, December 3, 2:00pm

Humanism has a long history in our congregation, and a lively group of humanists has been meeting for over 20 years, gathering on the 2nd and 4th Monday evenings and/or 1st and 3rd 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. This Monday we will discuss our country's political/cultural divide, what it is, and how to heal it. Several readings have been distributed on our mail list to provide a beginning to the conversation.

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



## Womyn's Community Sisterhood Social

Friday, November 20  
7:00pm

Our discussion topic for this meeting is self-care. We'll share favorite ways we take care of ourselves and collect our ideas into a shareable document, complete with any resource links you would like to provide. You can join the Sisterhood Social by computer or by phone. Please join us even if you'll be a little late.

[Click here to join the gathering.](#)

Questions?

Amy Thomas [agthomas@umich.edu](mailto:agthomas@umich.edu) (734) 347-2385

Meg McKenzie [mmckenzie22@gmail.com](mailto:mmckenzie22@gmail.com) (734) 417-7700



## Zooming with Our Transylvanian Partners

Exciting news! The Partner Church team had our first Zoom get-together with Istvan Buzogany-Csoma (minister), wife Csilla, and family, including new baby Lilla-Baroka. Some good ideas were begun with this get-together, and we plan to continue meeting this way, probably even after the pandemic is



over.

Look to future *Weekly News* announcements for how you can let us know you're interested in participating.



## Immigration Action Coalition Update

The Immigration Action Coalition (IAC) would like to share with the congregation the most recent allocations of fund donations we have made in our name to local organizations that help the immigrant/undocumented community in Washtenaw Country/ Ann Arbor area:

Ann Arbor Community Learning Center: to support the purchase of computers for online learning for undocumented families.

Washtenaw Congregational Sanctuary: to support the sanctuary guest Mohammed in his dental emergency.

Washtenaw Solidarity for Farmworkers: to support internet connectivity at five migrant worker camps in Michigan.

Thank you so much for your continued support. Stay safe!



## UUAA Groups: Reserve a Zoom Room

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

Questions? Email Debita Graham at [room@uuaa.org](mailto:room@uuaa.org).

## Quick Links:

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



## Other Links:

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



Contact Us

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