



First Unitarian Universalist CONGREGATION OF ANN ARBOR

This Week at UUAA
December 31, 2020 - January 6, 2021

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

This week's *Weekly News* is a re-run of last week's news. The deadline for the *Weekly News January 7 - 13* will be Tuesday, January 5 at 5pm Eastern [through this form](#).

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 UUAA:
Make an online offering today!



Every Body is a Good Body
Sunday, January 3, 10:45am

This Sunday, we will be visiting our friends at People's Church of Kalamazoo at 10:45am. They're hosting two other Michigan congregations, Brighton and Mount Pleasant, so it will be a wonderful gathering of UU Michiganders from all over the state!

Rev. Rachel Lonberg will be sharing the message, "Every Body is a Good Body." At the beginning of the year, we are inundated with messages about

New Year's resolutions about weight loss. Let's ignore those messages this year and celebrate our bodies, just as they are, in all

their shapes, sizes, and capabilities. Our bodies are worthy of care just as they are.

Join People's Church at 10:45am Sunday by going to www.uuaa.org/service. The service will be held through Zoom.

Interested in participating in virtual worship? [Light the chalice for an upcoming service](#).

Need more worship in your life? Watch past services, music, and stories in [our website archive](#).



Congregational Events

[View all upcoming events on the UUAA calendar.](#)

First of the Year Hike, Stroll, or Roll

Friday, January 1, various times

Start 2021 off by joining our UUAA family for a COVID-safe outing. [Sign up for a walk here.](#)

Pastoral Care New Year's Day Social Hour

Friday, January 1, 1:00pm

Come be in dialogue and share the joys of the season! For more information or to sign up, email pastoralcareevent@uuaa.org.

Realm Help Session

Tuesday, January 5, 7:00pm

Scroll down to learn more about Realm. [Register for this Realm help session or a later one here.](#)



New Year's Spiritual Retreat

If you're looking for an alternative way to ring in the new year that is spiritually grounding and safe to do at home, consider planning your very own spiritual retreat. [Read more here.](#)

COVID-19 Update

[Read the December update](#) from our UUAA COVID-19 Advisory Team. Inquiries and questions may be directed to Executive Minister Rev. Cassandra Hartley (cassandra@uuaa.org), who will forward



them, as appropriate, to team members.

Join UUAU Online!



UUAU is launching a new database system called Realm. Think of it as a UUAU online database, membership directory, communications platform, giving platform, and events calendar all

in one. You will have the congregation at your fingertips and be able to update your own contact information, sign up for groups, check your giving statements, make online donations, enter your pledges, and much more.

We will be phasing in different features of Realm as the UUAU Realm online community grows. To start, you will be able to do the following:

- review and update your own profile information
- pledge and make payments
- review and print your giving history
- join groups and see the others in your groups who have joined UUAU Realm
- complete a survey of your skills and interests
- view the contact information of others who have joined UUAU Realm

As more congregants join Realm, we will be phasing in the Realm communications and events features. Encourage your fellow congregants and group members to sign up!

Look for your Realm invitation in your inbox, and [read this document to learn more about how to join](#). We appreciate your understanding and patience as we roll this out.

Please don't hesitate to contact us at realmhelp@uuaa.org if you have any questions.



Realm Help Sessions

Tuesday, January 5, 7:00pm - 8:00pm

Thursday, January 7, 11:00am - noon

If you haven't joined Realm, the UUAA Online Community, we encourage you to do so. If you need help with Realm, come to one of our Realm help sessions. [Register here for either of these sessions](#). You will automatically receive confirmation.

For questions or to have your "Realm Invitation to Join" resent, email realmhelp@uuaa.org.



Alpha House Giving Tree

[Alpha House](#) is an Interfaith Hospitality Network shelter that aims to shelter and support children and families temporarily experiencing homelessness in our community. Each year, our SGD program leads an effort to provide Alpha House with donations of critical items.

Please [look over this list](#) and sign up for the items you can donate. Items must be new and can be of any quantity you can supply. To arrange a drop-off of your item, please coordinate with Alpha House by calling (734) 822-0220.



UUAA Fiber Arts Group

Saturday, January 2, 10:00am -

12:00pm

Come knit, crochet, embroider, or engage in some form of fiber arts together. UUAA Fiber Arts Group meets on the first Saturday morning and third Wednesday evening of the month for fellowship and sharing of knowledge and ideas. If you are a beginner looking for support or an experienced crafter, all are welcome. If you would like to make comfort shawls or baby blankets for Pastoral Care, arrangements can be made to supply you with the yarn and pattern.

For the Zoom link or questions, email sissely@aol.com.



Memory Loss Caregiver Support Group

Wednesday, January 6, 3:00pm - 4:30pm

The Memory Loss Caregiver Support Group is co-sponsored by the UUAA Pastoral Care Team and the Alzheimer's Association. The group meets via Zoom on the first Wednesday of each month from 3:00pm - 4:30pm. It is a confidential space for caregivers, family members, and friends of people with memory loss to share experiences, ask questions, and find support.

To request the Zoom link for the January 6 meeting or to ask a question, please contact Joan Burleigh at joburleigh@aol.com or Sandy Kunkle at sandykunkle@gmail.com.



UUCivs: Live Your Values

Sunday, January 10, 3:00pm

What could civic engagement look like in 2021? How might our energy be needed? What work will be important to do?

Help us begin this conversation at our next monthly meeting on Sunday, January 10 at 3:00pm. [Click here to join the Zoom meeting](#) or dial in at 312-626-6799.

Meeting ID: 849 9720 4824

Passcode: 023352

All are invited to help build on the momentum of the election and join in creating our evolving vision.

Questions? Email UUCivs@uuaa.org.



Equal Exchange Holiday Treats

Sales of your favorite coffees, teas, and chocolates from Equal Exchange continue, along with our free festive handmade gift bags. We now

have chocolate chips and hazelnut-flavored coffee!

Order for pickup or delivery - for you or as a gift - at uuaaequalexchangeorder@gmail.com (that's "UUAA Equal Exchange Order" all run together) or call 734-994-6494.

UNOSZ - 110 éves (years old)
Nők Világa - 20 éves (years old)
IWC - 10 éves (years old)
MUNOSZ - 5 éves (years old)
Ünnepeljünk együtt!
Let's celebrate together!

Első virtuális istentisztelet
First virtual worship
organized by UNOSZ and IWC
2020. okt. 17, 17 óra
(Oct. 17 at 5:00 pm, Romania)
UNOSZ - IWC



Partner Church News: Hungarian Unitarian Women's Service

The first ever virtual service
honoring Hungarian Unitarian

women was held this past October. The event drew people from around the world, from Hungary to England to the U.S.

In her sermon, the Rev. Julia Koppandi focused on the power of women's service -- a never-ending life path full of struggles and sacrifices, yet so forceful that it changes systems, it creates, and it beautifies: "church embroideries stand in silent testimony." [Attached is the text of this inspirational sermon.](#)

Anyone interested in joining our Partner Church group that meets once a month, please contact leeboekeburke@gmail.com.



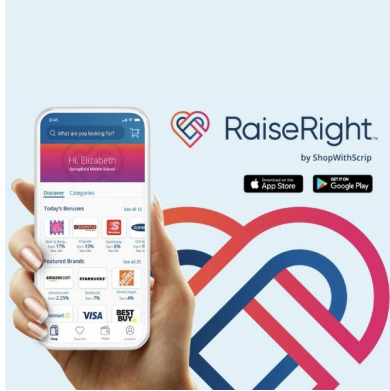
Thank You Letter to UUA President Rev. Susan Frederick-Gray

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

opposing Israeli annexation of Palestinian land. The statement was written by [Churches for Middle East Peace](#) in response to plans by Israel to annex 30% of the occupied Palestinian West Bank, a violation of international law. [Click here to add your name](#) to the thank you letter.

Scrip Delivered to Your Home!

Scrip fundraising has been sorely impacted by the pandemic. Because we

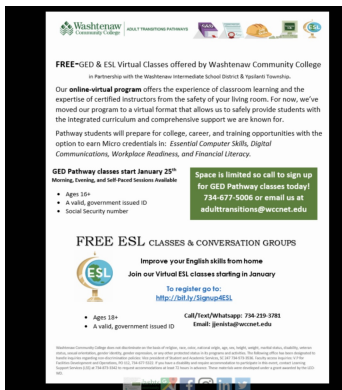


can't be together Sundays in the Social Hall, your access to physical gift cards has been difficult. However, with the new RaiseRight mobile app from [ShopwithScrip](#), you can purchase scrip and have it shipped to your home. [Here is an easy-to-follow 3-minute tutorial video](#) to get you started.

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.



Free ESL Classes Through Washtenaw Community College

Classes begin January 25

This program works best if you know at least 100 words in English. It is an English-immersion program. All materials and teachers will speak English. You must be able to take an entrance listening exam. We

will set up a time for you to complete registration paperwork and another time to meet the teachers. You must be 18 or older and have a photo ID. [Sign up for ESL classes here](#). You must complete registration paperwork and orientation before classes begin on January 25.

Other virtual programs can be accessed through the Pathway program. Please contact adulttransitions@wccnet.edu.

Mid-Winter Men's Retreat

Saturday, January 30

Save the date for a virtual Men's Retreat in



January. Emerge from your cocoon -- the times call us to turn towards a new way! Our retreat will begin in the morning via Zoom followed by optional small outdoor activities in the afternoon. Stay tuned to this space for the FREE registration info.



Social Justice Roundtable

Saturday, January 30, 9:30am - 11:30am

Please save the morning of January 30 to connect with other social justice leaders. The Social Justice Council will be hosting a virtual roundtable for social justice leaders that will focus on “Community, Collaboration, and Covenants.” Time will be spent on learning how to use Realm, UUAA’s new interactive database, to communicate with your group, create collaboration opportunities between groups, and explore tools to form a group covenant. Watch for more details in the *January Newsletter*.



Food Donations - The Mindful Eating Team

We'd like to highlight two of the many good organizations in Washtenaw County where you help those suffering food insecurity now.

Community Action Network (CAN), in partnership with Food Gatherers and Ann Arbor Public Schools, has distributed over 607,000+ lbs of food and served over 75,000 meals to students this past fiscal year. With your support, they can continue to be a reliable and safe community resource to hundreds of local families. All donations made to CAN will be matched up to \$100,000 until December 31. [Donate to CAN here.](#)

Growing Hope in Ypsilanti says, "Your gift today means more people will have equitable access to fresh produce, better understand where their food comes from, and can more fully participate as a food entrepreneur." [Donate to Growing Hope here.](#)



Registration: 2021 Chalice Circles



Are you looking for a way to connect with fellow congregants at UUAA? Are you seeking opportunities to share your truths in a brave space? Chalice Circles are facilitated gatherings focused on the practice of deep listening and supported by a curriculum of brief readings and questions on a particular topic.

[Register online here](#) for one of two six-week Chalice Circles forming now and beginning in February.

For more information, email ChaliceCircles@uuaa.org. All circles will be held on Zoom.



Congregational Life Hour 2021

Wednesdays, 6:00pm

Returning in January 2021, Congregational Life Hour is held on Wednesdays at 6:00pm. Join Coordinator of Congregational Life, QuianaDenae Perkins, and a variety of special guests in sharing the wonder and wisdom of this great community. Look to the *January 2021 Monthly Newsletter* for more information on upcoming Congregational Life Hour topics and guests.

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

Questions? Email Quiana@uuaa.org.



Habitat Year-End Update

We received this from Habitat for Humanity Huron Valley:

“...UUAA members have not only donated but volunteered their time to help us catch up on home build projects delayed due to COVID-19.

UUAA has been a TREMENDOUS support partner this year, and we are beyond grateful for the service you all provide to our organization. We look forward to partnering with you all again in 2021.”

To top this off, Sandy Simon was honored as the Volunteer of the

Year at the recent Volunteer Appreciation Event.



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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