



First Unitarian Universalist CONGREGATION OF ANN ARBOR

This Week at UUAA September 2 - 8, 2021

If you are unable to view this entire email, scroll down to the bottom and click "view entire message." The email ends with a "contact us" button and our address.

The *Weekly News* is distributed each Thursday. Deadlines for submissions are Tuesdays at 5:00pm.

The deadline for the *Weekly News* September 9 - 15 is Tuesday, September 7 at 5:00pm Eastern [through this form](#).

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

Support the ministries of UUAA: Make an online offering



Join Us on Sunday

Sunday, September 5, 8:00pm

Join us this Sunday when we will worship with the Church of the Larger Fellowship a live broadcast on Zoom at 8 PM ET. Visit

<https://www.questformeaning.org/worship/> to sign up to attend or choose something from the archives. There will not be a social hour.

On September 12, we are coming home to our UUAA building and grounds! We will once again gather in person for two services at 9:30am and 11:30am. There will be a Social Hour after both services, with eating done outdoors. We will also be live streaming the service if you prefer to attend from home. You can join us at: uuaa.org/service.

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

Upcoming Events

For a full list of events, [visit the UUAU Calendar](#).

UUAU COVID-19
Advisory Team



UPDATE

UUAU Reopening Update

Dear Beloved Members and Friends of our UUAU Community,

While the news about the Delta variant is very concerning, and we are continuing to carefully monitor the community health situation, we are still hopeful that we can resume in-person Sunday services on September 12 with our annual ingathering Water Communion service. We could not be more excited to return home to our UUAU building and experience the warmth of physically gathering in community again.

To ensure we can do this safely, our COVID-19 Advisory Team has updated our [COVID Precautions Policy and Procedures](#). Some of our precautions include: We will offer two services at 9:30am and 11:30am, but services will also be livestreamed for those who are not ready to return in person. Everyone over the age of 2 will need to wear a mask both indoors and outdoors. We will post COVID self-screening questions and ask anyone with recent exposures or symptoms to not enter the UUAU building and avoid UUAU activities until the risk of transmission subsides. The ventilation system for the entire building has been equipped with UV germicidal lights. Children (who are especially vulnerable since many of them can't be vaccinated yet) will go directly to their classrooms rather than begin in service. Classes for grades K - 5 will be outdoors, and teachers are required to be vaccinated. There will not be any communal singing or full choir performances. Those who do speak/sing in services must have a negative antigen test within 24 hours of the service. We will be hosting a social hour after each service with prepacked foods. Eating will happen outdoors under a large tent. Groups can continue to meet in the building or on the grounds. Some rooms can be equipped with multi-modal meeting capabilities upon request to accommodate those group members who can't meet in person or who don't feel comfortable meeting in person.

To ensure our reopening goes smoothly, please read the full text of our updated [COVID Precautions Policy and Procedures](#) carefully. If you have questions or feedback for the COVID-19 Advisory Team, please contact Executive Minister, Rev. Cassandra Hartley at cassandra@uuaa.org.

It's our intention to use this policy as our guide for September - October and

then reassess. Of course, if the community health situation changes and we need to push our reopening date or shut down after reopening, the COVID-19 Advisory Team would immediately inform the community. We recognize that reopening will mean a return to things that are familiar, as well as the beginning of new ways of doing things. This will bring up many different emotions for each of us: anxiety, joy, grief, anticipation, frustration, relief ... and more. We will need to give one another a great deal of grace and support in the months ahead as we navigate this transition. If you need extra support, our ministers and the Pastoral Care Team at pastoralcare@uuaa.org are here for you. We hope you enjoy these final days of summer, and we look forward to celebrating the beginning of a new congregational year with you - both online and in person - on September 12!



UUA Mask Requirement

As we prepare to gather in person for the first time in a year and a half, the UUA Covid Team has been keeping abreast of the recommended practices and updating the [UUA Covid Policies and](#)

[Procedures](#). Masks will be required indoors and outdoors for everyone over the age of 2, except when eating or drinking. *

If you have questions or concerns about the mask requirement, please contact Hannah Hotchkiss, Coordinator of Welcome Ministries and Membership, at hannah@uuaa.org.

*Exception to the mask requirement: Members of the worship team who are actively speaking can remove their masks. The first row of chairs in the Sanctuary will be removed to ensure proper distancing.



COVID-Safe Social Hour

UUA will be offering a social hour between the Sunday worship services (9:30am and 11:30am) starting September 12, 2021. Some elements of Social Hour have been modified to meet our COVID safety plan.

- **FOOD:** All food will be individual “grab and go”; we will be offering an outside tent for those who want to congregate.
- **INVOLVEMENT TABLE:** The office of Congregational Life will be hosting ONE large involvement table with information about all of UUA’s Social Justice+ Spiritual Social groups.

Groups wanting to add additional information should contact Quianadenae@uuaa.org for details.

Date	Session	Details
Now	Summer 2017	When submitting your summer room requests, please note our summer 2017 UUA building hours: Sunday 9:00am - 4:00pm 2 nd and 4 th Monday 9:00am - 9:00pm Monday through Wednesday 9:00am - 5:00pm Thursday 9:00am - 9:00pm Saturday 9:00am - 12:00pm
July 1	Program Year 2017-18	Reservations for groups of 50 or more people
August 1	Program Year 2017-18	All room reservation requests

Does your group want to meet in person at UUA, via Zoom, or with some group members participating in person and others joining via Zoom? We are now accepting

outdoor, room, Zoom, and multi-modal (a room with Zoom capabilities) room reservation requests through the updated request-a-room or request-an-outdoor-space forms. The links to the forms can be found at the bottom of the [UUA webpage](#).

Questions? Contact debita graham at room@uuaa.org.



Please Register for SGD Classes TODAY!

The Spiritual Growth and Development (SGD) Program is excited to welcome back children and youth for 2021/2022! Registration for classes is now open. Please fill out the following Google form as soon as possible at [SGD Registration 2021/2022](#).

Classes meet on Sundays from mid-September through May. The first part of the SGD session will take place primarily outdoors and will include both large-group and small-group learning activities. Class placements will depend on enrollment and volunteer recruitment.

Questions or concerns? Please email Stella at stella@uuaa.org.



Fair Trade Coffee, Chocolates, and Tea Sales Help the UUA and UUSC!

Your favorite Equal Exchange coffees, chocolates, and teas are available now for pickup or delivery. Sip away the last of summer with some good coffee or tea and help the congregation and the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee (USC) at the same time.

Contact uuaaequalexchangeorder@gmail.com to order or for more information.



Humanist Discussion

*Thursdays, September 2 and 16, 2:00pm
 Mondays, September 13 and 27, 7:00pm*

Topics will include: *The Four Americas* (George Packer), *A Guide to Finding Faith* (Ross Douthat), and "How an intense spiritual retreat might change

your brain” (Andrew Newberg).

Humanism has a long history in our congregation. A lively group of Humanists has been meeting here for over 20 years, 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.

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



Newcomer Chalice Circle | The Seven UU Principles

Saturday, September 18, 1:00pm - 3:00pm

Registration Deadline: Monday, September 13

Are you new to UUAA? Would you like to explore the tenets of Unitarian Universalism with others who are new? Join us for a Zoom discussion of the Seven UU

Principles.

- What do they mean to you?
- Which ones resonate strongly?
- How do they inspire?

You will receive the principles and reflection questions in advance. We will practice a deep-listening format during the discussion. **Please register** by Monday, September 13. We ask that when you sign up you commit to attending and log into the Zoom room by the start time.

Questions? Email Welcome Ministries Coordinator Hannah Hotchkiss at Hannah@uuaa.org.



September Sharing the Collection

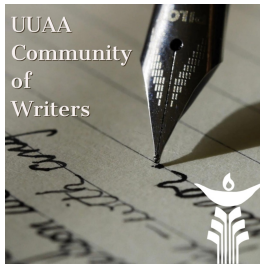
Sunday, September 19

On Sunday, September 19, we will share our collection with **Community Action Network (CAN)**. CAN “envisions the closing of socio-economic gaps by providing educational and enrichment programs for children and teens, supportive services for

families who are under-resourced, and challenging systems rooted in racism and inequality.” It operates community centers in low-income Ann Arbor neighborhoods to carry out its mission. CAN also builds community by facilitating resident council elections, co-hosting community activities, and

strengthening parent/school relationships.

Questions? Contact Jan Duncan at janetdunc@gmail.com.



UUA Writers Meeting

Sunday, September 19, 1:00pm - 3:00pm

The Community of Writers September meeting will be facilitated by Bruce Lund. He states, "I've heard it said that every UU can write a sermon, poem, essay, memoir, or story on their relationship to the Creation that surrounds and pervades their lives. Let's get started ... bring your 'creation' on Creation to the September writers group meeting." You are invited to join the writers who will read their own creative writing on this topic or another of their choosing.

For more information and Zoom link, contact Sandy Kunkle at sandykunkle@gmail.com.



Friday Fun Night—Outdoor Movie Night

Friday, September 24, 7:30pm - 9:30pm

Do you like movies? Then join the Friday Fun Night Team and your UUA community for a movie under the stars on Friday, September 24 at 7:30pm. Bring your blankets, lawn chairs, and a picnic if you would like. Popcorn and beverages will be provided.

Many suggestions have been submitted by fellow congregants. The top five choices are *The Wizard of Oz*, *The Sound of Music*, *Shrek*, *Soul*, and *Lion King*. You can help pick the FINAL choice for the movie we will show by [voting here](#). The winning movie will be announced in a few weeks.

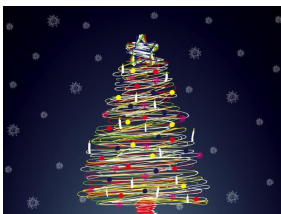


Parents/Caregivers of Young Children Playdate!

Saturday, September 25, 3:30pm - 5:00pm

Join the Caregivers and Kiddos group and meet other parents/caregivers of young children (0 - 5) and their children at our fourth-Saturday playdate. We'll meet in the outdoor preschool playground at the UUA church.

Contact charlene.mangi@gmail.com for more information and stay up to date with all Caregivers and Kiddos activities.



Coming in October!

UUAA will be helping children get holiday gifts again this year. Children are mostly back in school so we will be able to get more than "gift cards"! The lists of children who need help will be announced in October, so get your best pick and come as soon as they are available. We hope to have a table at social hour. Remember it is two gifts they need and two they want.

Questions? Contact ilene.beninson@gmail.com.



Washtenaw County Warrant Resolution Day: Sign Up to Volunteer

Friday, October 1

The Warrant Resolution Project is a community-based restorative justice initiative in partnership with the Interfaith Council for Peace and Justice (ICPJ) seeking to create a safer community by assisting residents with information, education, and solutions to outstanding warrants before the courts in Washtenaw County. On Friday, October 1, they will host a community-wide "Warrant Resolution Day" for people to clear outstanding non-compliance warrants. Though the warrant resolution process will be conducted by court personnel, we need lots of volunteer support to make the event successful.

[Visit here](#) for more information.

Links

[Reserve a Zoom room](#) | [View past services](#)

[Log in to Realm](#) | [Make your pledge](#)



UUA.org | MidAmericaUUA.org

[Side with Love](#) | [UUCSJ](#) | [DRUUMM](#) | [BLUU](#)

Contact Us

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