



# First Unitarian Universalist CONGREGATION OF ANN ARBOR

## This Week at UUAA September 9 - 15, 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 16 - 22 is Tuesday, September 14 at 5:00pm Eastern [through this form](#).

The *Monthly News* goes out at the beginning of every month, and all submissions for the October newsletter must be sent in by September 21 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](mailto:communications@uuaa.org).

**[Support the ministries of UUAA: Make an online offering](#)**



### **Join Us on Sunday**

*Sunday, September 12, 9:30am and 11:30am*

Join us this Sunday when 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.

We are celebrating Water Communion. Please bring a small amount of water (it can be from a special water source or just from home) to contribute to the communal water we gather at this annual service. Children will go

straight to a multiage children's chapel (Fahs Chapel), where they will have their own water communion ceremony.

There will be a social hour after both services, with eating done outdoors. We will also be livestreaming the service if you prefer to attend from home. You can join us at [uuaa.org/service](https://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 Mask Requirement

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

UUAU 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 UUAU’s Social Justice and Spiritual Social groups.

Groups wanting to add additional information should contact [Quianadenae@uuaa.org](mailto:Quianadenae@uuaa.org) for details.



## Introducing Acting Director of Music Ministries, W. Carter Smith

Carter Smith is a conductor and performer from Baton Rouge, Louisiana. He is excited to join the UUA community in August of 2021. In addition to his current position here, he is also in the final stages of completing a Doctor of Musical Arts degree at Michigan State University.

Prior to moving to Ann Arbor, Carter enjoyed a variety of professional opportunities including graduate assistant at Michigan State, choir director at St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Church in East Lansing, director of choral activities for the Episcopal School of Baton Rouge, chorus master for Opéra Louisiane, and director of music for University United Methodist Church in Baton Rouge.

Carter holds a Bachelor of Music (Vocal Performance) from Louisiana State University, where he studied with Dr. Lori Bade and Prof. Dennis Jesse, and a Master of Music (Conducting) from LSU, where he studied with Dr. Kenneth Fulton and Maestro Carlos Riazuelo. Outside of music, Carter is an avid college football and baseball fan. He and his fiancée love cooking, traveling, and spending time with friends and family.

You can reach Carter at [carter@uuaa.org](mailto:carter@uuaa.org).

Date	Session	Details
Now	Summer 2017	When submitting your summer room requests, please note our summer 2017 UUA building hours: <b>Sunday</b>   9:00am - 4:00pm <b>2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Monday</b>   9:00am - 9:00pm <b>Monday through Wednesday</b>   9:00am - 5:00pm <b>Thursday</b>   9:00am - 9:00pm <b>Saturday</b>   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

## Room Reservation Update

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 multimodal (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](mailto:room@uuaa.org).

## Habitat for Humanity Advocacy

Habitat for Humanity does more than help provide secure, affordable home ownership and racial equity in housing. We also advocate for affordable housing, energy efficiency,



home mortgage rule reforms, and more. We need your help to increase access to stable, affordable housing now more than ever. When you advocate with Habitat, you're helping to change systems and policies in the U.S. and working alongside people in our community! [Learn more here.](#)



## Humanist Discussion

*Mondays, September 13 & 27, 7:00pm*

*Thursdays, September 16 & October 7, 2:00pm*

Topics will include: *The Four Americas* by George Packer, *A Guide to Finding Faith* by Ross Douthat, and "How an intense spiritual retreat might change your brain" by 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@uuuaa.org](mailto:humanistgroupinfo@uuuaa.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@uuuaa.org](mailto:Hannah@uuuaa.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](mailto:janetdunc@gmail.com).



## UUA Community of 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](mailto:sandykunkle@gmail.com).



## Friday Fun Night—Outdoor Movie Night

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

AND THE WINNER IS... *SOUL*! This Disney/Pixar animated film from 2020 tells the story of Joe, a middle-school band teacher whose life hasn't quite gone the way he expected. His true passion is jazz—and he's good. But when he travels to another realm to help someone find their passion, he soon discovers what it means to have a soul.

Thanks to the congregants who suggested films and voted for their movie choice. Join the Friday Fun Night Team and your UUA community for the movie *Soul* 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.



## Caregivers and Kiddos Playdate!

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

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

Contact [charlene.mangi@gmail.com](mailto:charlene.mangi@gmail.com) for more information and stay up to date with all Caregivers and Kiddos activities.



## Coming in October

Sponsor a Child partners with Community Action Network (CAN) to provide children from under-resourced Washtenaw County neighborhoods with holiday gifts. Since most children are back in school, we will be able to get more than 'gift cards"! The lists of children who need help will be announced in October, so come and choose as soon as the names are available. We hope to have a table at Social Hour for signing up. Remember, you will be providing four gifts—two gifts the child needs and two that they want.

Questions? Contact [ilene.beninson@gmail.com](mailto: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). The project seeks 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, the project will host a community-wide "Warrant Resolution Day" for people to clear their outstanding noncompliance 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.

## 2021 WomUUn's Retreat Transitions to Hybrid Event

Saturday, October 9



Concerns about Covid-19 safety have prompted the WomUUn's Council to cancel the in-person 2021 WomUUn's Retreat. Everyone who registered will receive a full refund. A hybrid retreat offering a selection of physically distanced in-person and virtual workshops will be offered at UUA on Saturday, October 9.

A highlight is our keynote session "Beyond the Binary: Celebrating the Spectrums of Gender and Sexuality". We invite all women in the congregation to join us. Registration materials will be available by September 15 at [www.uuaa.org/womUUn](http://www.uuaa.org/womUUn).

Contact Amy Thomas at [WomUUnsRetreat@uuaa.org](mailto:WomUUnsRetreat@uuaa.org) with any questions.

## Links

[Reserve a Zoom room](#) | [View past services](#)  
[Log in to Realm](#) | [Make your pledge](#)



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

## Contact Us

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