



First Unitarian Universalist CONGREGATION OF ANN ARBOR

This Week at UUAA December 16 - 22, 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* December 23 - 29 is Tuesday, December 21 at 5:00pm Eastern [through this form](#). **Please note the weekly news will repeat for the week of December 30.**

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, December 19, 9:30am and 11:30am

Join us this Sunday, December 19 as we gather in person for two services at 9:30am and 11:30am, "The Winter's Longest Night." This Sunday we honor the winter solstice with its theme of the natural, cyclical rhythms of life, and our hemisphere's gradual shift from less to increasing daylight. How might our lives mirror this natural rhythm? What possibilities exist for us as we gently begin shifting into the return of greater daylight?

Due to Covid protocols, our social hours of old have changed. There will be a limited number of tables set up in the social hall for social justice and fund-

raising activities after both services. But with the onset of winter and the removal of the tents outside the Social Hall, we no longer have a safe space indoors or outdoors for gathering to eat. We will return to serving beverages once we can be inside unmasked safely. However, we will be serving grab-and-go doughnuts at the main entrance for you to take with you as you leave UUAA on Sunday morning.

We will also be livestreaming the service if you prefer to attend from home. You can join us at uuaa.org/service.

Please note that masks will be required for everyone over the age of 2.* 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.



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 UUAA Calendar](#).



Christmas Eve Services

We will celebrate the spirit of Christmas with story, music, and candlelight at our three services on Christmas Eve at 4:30pm, 7:00pm, and 9:00pm. The service at 4:30pm will be open to families with children.



Please choose which service you hope to attend in person - NOT an RSVP, for staff planning only

Family Friendly Christmas Pageant at 4:30pm

Traditional Service at 7:00pm

Traditional Service at 9:00pm



Christmas Eve Livestream Viewers—Candle Pickup

If you will be celebrating Christmas Eve by livestreaming the service, you are welcome to stop by UUAA ahead of time to pick up candles for you and your family. Candles will be in a bin on the bench directly inside the main entrance doors. Pickup times are Sundays 9:00am - 2:00pm and Mondays through Thursdays 10:00am - 4:00pm.

Questions? Contact Hannah Hotchkiss at hannah@uuaa.org.



A Flaming Chalice for You!

A lovely stoneware flaming chalice waits for you or for someone you love, made by potter Ingrid Gunderson. All proceeds go to our congregation.

Email her at igunder@umich.edu to purchase one.

Undecided? Gift certificates are also available.



Me and White Supremacy Book Circle Forming

Join us for this opportunity for individual growth and group conversation, starting in February 2022.

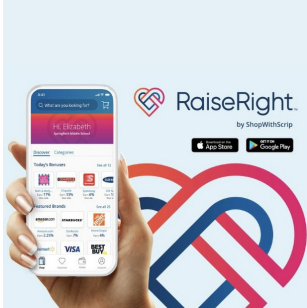
The Racial Justice Arc (RJA) team warmly invites you to participate in a small group reading and discussion of *Me and White Supremacy: Combat Racism, Change the World, and Become a Good Ancestor* by Layla F. Saad. The book and associated journal prompts teach readers to understand their white privilege and their participation in white supremacy.

The author suggests, "Create the change the world needs by creating change within yourself." The group will be guided by two RJA members, with a total of five sessions meeting over 10 weeks time. If purchase is a hardship, books may be provided to group participants. Sign-up details coming soon!

Contact RacialJusticeArc@uuaa.org for more information.

Let the UUAA Scrip Program Help

Sundays through December 19



Do you dread Christmas shopping as much as I do? I never know what to get—what they need, what size, what color. Scrip (gift cards) to the rescue! And if you do know exactly what you want to get, use scrip to buy the presents and benefit the church at the same time. We now have \$100 Amazon, Meijer, and Target gift cards in stock, if all else fails.

Come browse the Scrip Table in the Social Hall on Sunday, check out [our webpage](#), or contact Carolyn at cmbponyclub@sbcglobal.net.



Humanist Discussion

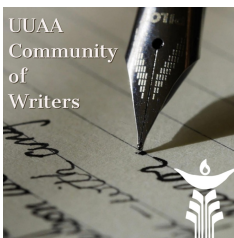
Thursday, December 16, 2:00pm

Topics for December 16 include "Spiritual but not Religious is far from a new development," *The Power of Ritual: Turning Everyday Activities into Soulful Practices*, and book reviews of *The Transcendentalists and Their World* and *Religion's Demoralizing Gift of Morality*.

There will be no Monday discussion on December 27; the next Monday discussion will be January 10.

Humanism has a long history in our congregation. A lively group of Humanists has been meeting regularly 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 mail list, get the login information, or get answers to any other questions, send a query to humanistgroupinfo@uuaa.org.



UUA Community of Writers Zoom Meeting

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

Do you laugh at slapstick, silly puns, blonde jokes, or the time your dog ate the remote? What makes us laugh is really what makes us tick, who we are. Writers will explore their relationship to humor for the December 19 meeting and may read five minutes or less of their creative efforts. Writers may instead write and read on any topic of their choosing. Member Diana Fead will facilitate the readings.

Contact Kathy Friedrichs for more information and the Zoom link at



Taking Action for Climate Justice in 2022: A Conversation with Community Organizers, Leaders, and Activists

Tuesday, January 4, 7:00pm - 8:30pm

Join a conversation with community organizers, leaders, and activists from the Michigan Alliance for Justice in Climate, Michigan Environmental Justice Coalition, Michigan UU Social Justice Network, and the Interfaith Council for Peace and Justice. Together we will learn more about the vision and principles guiding these organizations and explore possibilities for taking action for climate justice in 2022.

We will have a conversation about how faith-based groups can become engaged and enduring partners on the climate justice journey ahead.

Register here in advance. You will receive a confirmation email with the Zoom link.



Newcomer Chalice Circle | The Seven UU Principles

Saturday, January 15, 1:00pm - 3:00pm

Register by Monday, January 10

If you are new to UUAA and would like to get to know others who are new and explore the tenets of Unitarian Universalism, 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 when you **register**, and we will practice a deep listening format during the discussion. We ask that when you sign up, you commit to attending and will log into the Zoom room by the start time.

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

Introduction to Our Faith

Saturdays, January 22 and 29, 10:00am - noon

Register by Sunday, January 16

This two-session class launches you on your way



toward membership and a deeper understanding of this congregation and faith. We will share our spiritual journeys, review the history of Unitarian Universalism and this congregation, explore your calling, how to get involved, and discuss the meaning and responsibilities of membership. This class is a prerequisite to official membership.

[Register by Sunday, January 16.](#)

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

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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