



First Unitarian Universalist CONGREGATION OF ANN ARBOR

This Week at UUAA March 3 - 9, 2022

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.

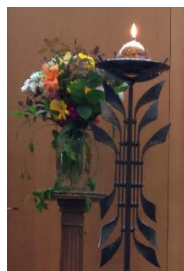
The *Weekly News* is distributed each Thursday. Deadlines for submissions are Tuesdays at 5:00pm.

The deadline for the *March 10 Weekly News* is Tuesday, March 8 at 5:00pm Eastern [through this form](#).

The deadline for the *April Monthly Newsletter* is Monday, March 21 at 5pm Eastern [through this form](#).

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

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



Sunday Worship **"Reclaiming the Faith That Is Ours"**

Sunday, March 6, 9:30am & 11:30am

On the other side of disappointment and/or pain with experiences in other denominations/traditions, many of us have arrived at Unitarian Universalism holding a clear sense of what does not work for us. How might we reclaim, renew, and refresh a sense of what faith and our faith journeys might mean to each of us?

Sharing the Collection

Sunday, March 6

On Sunday, March 6, we will share our collection with [Habitat for Humanity of Huron Valley](#). Habitat for Humanity of Huron Valley (H4H)

enriches our whole community by making homeownership affordable and attainable by providing important services to Washtenaw County residents.

You may mail your check to UAAA (UAAA, Attn: Ed Lynn, 4001 Ann Arbor-Saline Rd., Ann Arbor, MI 48103). Please write "Sharing the Collection - H4H" in the memo line. You can also contribute to Sharing the Collection [online](#).

After the Sunday Service

There will be a limited number of tables set up in the Social Hall for social justice and fund-raising activities after both services. Stop by to visit the tables to see what is being offered.

Grab-and-go doughnuts will be available at the main entrance for you to take with you as you leave the building.

Please note our **Covid Safety Policies**: *Anyone entering the UAAA building for activities/business is expected to be fully vaccinated and boosted, as eligible, and must remain properly masked at all times.* [A video of our updated policy is available here.](#)

*Exception to the mask requirement: Members of the worship team who are actively speaking may remove their masks. All unmasked speakers on the chancel have tested negative in the preceding 24 hours.

Upcoming Events & Announcements

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



Consider Supporting the Klein Fund

For those who got to participate in UAAA's programming with Mark Nepo this weekend, or will be participating "on demand," please know that UAAA is able to bring dynamic and meaningful speakers such as Nepo to our community thanks to the Klein Fund. The Klein Fund is a fund that supports such programming, and as it is not an endowed fund, it exists through the ongoing generous financial support of our members and friends. Please consider giving to the Klein Fund. Go to [Giving](#) and select "Klein Fund" to support our community's ability to continue bringing high caliber and impactful speakers/guests to UAAA and Ann Arbor. As a bonus, the first 25 individuals donating \$50 or more will receive a complimentary copy of one of Mark Nepo's books! Thank you, in advance!

From Rev. Manish:



Feedback Sessions Regarding UUAA's Acting Directors – Your Input Is Needed

Wednesday, March 23, 7:00pm - 8:00pm

(regarding our Acting Director of Spiritual Growth and Development)

Two of UUAA's current staff members—Stella Anderson and Carter Smith—each hold the title of “Acting Director” of the Spiritual Growth and Development Program and of Music Ministries, respectively. As has been previously shared with our community, UUAA has many options before us, which include possibilities such as making either or both of our Acting Directors the hired Director for their respective programs, extending the “Acting” positions for a second year, and/or entering intentional search processes, among other options. While all staffing decisions ultimately lie with the senior minister, UUAA's Personnel Working Group is helping gather intentional feedback from our community members to help better inform how we will move forward. This is your chance to participate, and your participation matters! If you LOVE how our Acting Directors are leading their respective programs, please do not assume that each of them are going to be the permanent hire. (Either/both may not be.) If you have questions or reservations about either/both Acting Directors, please do not assume that it will all get worked out in some larger search process. (There might not be one.) Community members are strongly encouraged to participate in this intentional feedback and assessment process—what we hear from the community, collectively, will directly support how UUAA proceeds with permanent staffing. [Read more here.](#)



Introduction to Our Faith

Wednesdays, March 9 & 16, 7:00pm - 9:00pm

Register by Thursday, March 3

This two-session Zoom 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 and how to get involved, and discuss the meaning and responsibilities of membership. This class is a prerequisite to official membership. **Registration by March 3 is required.** Questions? Email Welcome Ministries Coordinator Hannah Hotchkiss at Hannah@uuaa.org.



Humanist Discussions

Thursday, March 3, 2:00pm

Monday, March 14, 7:00pm

Thursday Topics: “Secularism and the Media,” “Separation of Church and State,” “Christian Nationalism Is Un-Christian”

Monday Topics: TBA

Lively groups of Humanists have been meeting for over 20 years at UUA to discuss topics relating to Humanist philosophy, theology, morals, ethics, reasoning, science, and more. All are welcome. All meetings are still virtual. To get on our email list, get the login information, or get answers to other questions, send a query to humanistgroupinfo@uuaa.org.



UUA Fiber Arts Group

Saturday, March 5, 11:00am - 1:00pm

Wednesday, March 16, 7:00pm - 9:00pm (via Zoom)

Come knit, crochet, embroider, or engage in some form of fiber arts together. UUA Fiber Arts Group meets on the first Saturday and third Wednesday 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. We also have quilters that have joined us.

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.

We meet the first Saturday of the month 11:00am -1:00pm in person at the UUA Young Room, and the third Wednesday of the month 7:00pm - 9:00pm on Zoom.

For the Zoom link or questions, send us an email at crafters@uuaa.org.



TrUU Hope Youth Group

Sunday, March 6, 1:00pm - 3:00pm and/or

Friday, March 25, 7:30pm - 9:30pm

TrUU Hope Game Day: Join us Sunday, March 6, 1:00pm - 3:00pm at UUA for a game day and hang out! Grab some pizza next to Fahs Chapel to eat outside in the courtyard, and then join us in Fahs for games and fun.

TrUU Hope Movie Night: Friday, March 25 from 7:30 - 9:30pm to watch "Ellie and Abbie (and Ellie's Dead Aunt)." Allies welcome to movie night.

TrUU Hope is a UUA group for LGBTQIA+ (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, intersex, asexual, and similarly identified) youth. We aim to grow community and to provide social, support, educational, and activist programs and opportunities for our youth to explore their identities and interests.

Questions? Want to be added to our email list? Send an email to TrUUHopeInfo@uuaa.org.



Sharing the Collection

Sunday, March 6

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The Sharing the Collection Committee: Jan Duncan, Fran Lyman, Terry Madden, Charlene Mangi, and Diane McCarthy

Please contact sharecollection@uuaa.org with any questions or suggestions.

North Ann Arbor UU Monthly Discussion

Tuesday, March 8, 7:00pm - 8:30pm

We will be discussing August Wilson's play "Joe Turner's Come and Gone" and its contemporary implications. To get the Zoom link or get your questions answered, email Quincy at qnorthrup@gmail.com.



Mindful Aging

Saturday, March 12, 1:00pm - 2:30pm

You are welcome to join fellow UUs to discuss Mindful Aging Saturday, March 12 at 1:00pm via Zoom. The topic is "Health Disparities: How does unfair and unequal healthcare hurt everyone, especially the older adult?" **The link for the first recorded session about this topic is here.** For the discussion Zoom link and questions, email Sandy Breck at sbreck@umich.edu.



UAAA Veterans for Peace

UAAA Veterans for Peace (VFP) Meeting

Sunday, March 13 between services

Some time back Mike Muha and Tim Richards proposed that the UAAA VFP subgroup develop a way for us, in conjunction with our parent group, Veterans for Peace Chapter 93, to provide support and assistance to formerly incarcerated veterans here in Washtenaw County.

With the apparent decline in COVID-19 incidence, we propose that we convene in person at the UUAA building between services on Sunday March 13. The purpose of this initial meeting will be to:

- define the problem we think we want to address,
- identify resources available,
- identify strategies to explore, and
- begin to develop an action plan.

Please join us. Questions? Email vets4peace@uuaa.org.



Climate Action | Climate Justice Priorities

Wednesday, March 16, 7:00pm - 8:30pm

You are invited to a Zoom-based dive into data collected to inform UUAA's Climate Opportunity Assessment. Data sources: Fall 2021 Congregational Climate Survey and Gathering Table discussions plus other reports and conversations related to:

- Mitigating the climate crisis;
- Adapting and building resilience to impacts of the crisis;
- Securing justice by collaborating with marginalized communities most impacted by, but least responsible for, the crisis;
- Transforming our congregation for climate justice mobilization.

Registration information will be available in the *Weekly News* and on the [Climate Action page](#) of the [UUAA website](#) in early March. Send questions to Climate@UUAA.org.



Winter Work Day on UUAA Land!

Saturday, March 19, noon - 6:00pm

The Men's Council is sponsoring a work day on the UUAA property March 19, noon - 6:00pm (rain date March 26) open to all adults. We will be clearing brush, repairing the septic field road, removing fences, and other tasks vetted by the church administration. (More details will be sent after you sign up.)

[Sign up here.](#)

Because we are renting a "bobcat" and chipper, we strongly recommend that children not participate in this workday.

At 5:00pm, we will celebrate our efforts around a campfire with anyone who wants to join us (including kids). Please bring your own refreshments and food. We will have a grill and provide burgers. Questions? Email Tom at tchettleburgh@gmail.com.

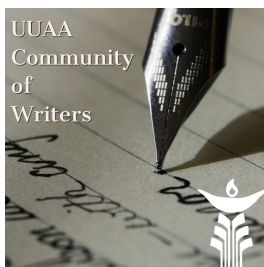


Newcomer Chalice Circle | Covenant

Saturday, March 19, 1:00pm - 3:00pm

Register by Sunday, March 13

Are you new to UUAA? Would you like to get to know others who are also new, while exploring a basic tenet of Unitarian Universalism? Join us for a Zoom discussion of covenantal religion. How does this differ from credal religion? What inspiration or challenges are presented with a covenant? You will receive short reflections and questions in advance, and we will practice a deep-listening format during the discussion. We ask that when you sign up, you commit to attending and to logging into the Zoom room by the start time. All information shared during Chalice Circles is confidential. **Register by March 13.** Questions? Email Welcome Ministries Coordinator Hannah Hotchkiss at Hannah@uuaa.org.



Community of Writers Zoom Meeting

Sunday, March 20, 1:00pm - 3:00pm

“What’s in a Name” is the prompt that member Lori Reece suggests for the Community of Writers March meeting. A sample of questions from Lori:

What does your name mean?

Does it seem to fit?

Ever had a nickname? Like it?

Some people change their names as adults. Have you?

As always, you may write and read on the suggested topic or read any of your original writing.

If you want more of Lori’s questions, the Zoom link, or information, contact Kathy Friedrichs at Kamf@umich.edu or Sandy at Kunkle@gmail.com.



Radical Welcome Gathering Table

Sunday, April 3, 2:00pm - 3:30pm

Want to learn more about Radical Welcome? Come to our Gathering Table with Alex Kapitan on April 3, 2:00pm - 3:30pm.

Alex, a co-leader of the Transforming Hearts Collective and the founder of *Radical Copyeditor*, will guide us in an exciting workshop about the meaning of radical welcome and how it impacts each of us and our communities. Radical Welcome is one of UUAA’s priority areas, and we will explore how we can become a more radically welcoming congregation. It is sure to be a transforming experience for each of us.

Watch for more details about registration. Questions? Want to volunteer?
Contact RadicalWelcome@UUA.org.



Support Fair Trade Farmers, UUA, and UUSC

Stop by the Fair Trade Coffee Table during Social Hour and support small farm cooperatives globally while also helping to fundraise for UUSC social justice programs and our UUA congregation. Choose from fair trade organic chocolates, coffee, teas, nuts, dried fruits, and Palestinian olive oils. Questions? Contact Ilene

Beninson at ilene.beninson@gmail.com.



Green Corner:

Down with Baggies, Up with Glass

Too much plastic ends up in landfills and in ocean islands twice the size of Texas. Imagine the thousands of plastic bags we toss every year. Yuck!

Be part of the solution. Replace baggies with glass containers to be used over and over again. Glass doesn't leach chemicals (phthalates, BPA & BPS) into our food. Glass containers can go in the oven or microwave—baggies can't. They can stack in the fridge or freezer (with re-usable plastic lids)—baggies don't stack. Glass is clean, healthy, and environmentally smart.



The Mindful Eating Team Has a New Name!

Our group's mission is to advocate for human health and animal welfare while promoting equitable food systems that sustain the environment, alleviate hunger, and support farm and food workers. To better reflect the full scope of this mission statement, the group has decided to change our name to the Food Justice Team.

We meet on the fourth Tuesday of the month via Zoom. If you'd like more information about the work being done by the Food Justice Team and our plans for the future, please contact us at foodjustice@uua.org.

What Happened at the Anti-Racism/Anti- Oppression Gathering Table?

Over 60 UUA members came together for the February 6 Anti-Racism/Anti-Oppression Gathering

**Feb 6 Gathering Table
Anti-Racism/Anti-Oppression**



Table. This was our first community-wide discussion of perspectives and recommendations on how we come together around anti-racism/anti-oppression as one of our Vision 20/50 priority areas. A special thanks to the organizing team, facilitators, note-takers, and IT wizards who made this an accessible and welcoming space to begin this conversation.

Here are summaries of the event evaluation, small group discussions, and all UAAA group efforts focusing on anti-racism and anti-oppression. They are rich with great ideas and opportunities to engage!

- [Evaluation survey results](#)
- [Summary of small-group discussions](#)
- [Summary of Anti-Racism/Anti-Oppression work underway at UAAA in 2022](#)

We welcome thoughts, questions, and volunteers at ARAO@uuaa.org (your AR/AO Gathering Table Organizing Team).



Family Resettlement Support

UAAA is officially approved to be a co-sponsor with Jewish Family Services (JFS) to help resettle a refugee family. Initially it was likely that we would be matched with an Afghan family; however they have all already been resettled! JFS remains over capacity and will match us with a family from elsewhere potentially by early March. Thank you to all who have supported this effort. Check out our new [Sign Up Genius to contribute to household items](#) Questions? Contact resettlement@uuaa.org.



Community Partner: Interfaith Council for Peace and Justice (ICPJ)

Community conversation: After the Citizens for Racial Equity Washtenaw (CREW) Report. [Click here](#) for the ICPJ Community updates.

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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