



FIRST UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST
CONGREGATION OF ANN ARBOR

This Week at UUAA
May 19 - 25, 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.

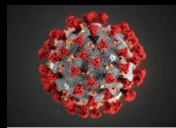
The *Weekly News* is distributed each Thursday. Deadlines for submissions are Tuesdays at 5:00pm.

The deadline for the *Weekly News* May 26 - June 1 is Tuesday, May 24 at 5:00pm Eastern [through this form](#).

The deadline for the *June Monthly Newsletter* is Saturday, May 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.



Please read the update from our Covid Advisory Team dated May 18, 2022.



Sunday Worship
"Annual Flower Communion: Living in a Time of Beauty, Love, and Conflict"
Sunday, May 22, 9:30am & 11:30am
In-person and online at uuaa.org/service

Join us for a very special annual Flower Communion service, an all-ages service, with special guest musician Tret Fure. All in-person congregants

are invited to bring with them to our Sunday services a flower to help create shared bouquets for our communion table. Congregants joining us from home are invited to have flowers on hand and to join in the spirit of our communion virtually. This Sunday we honor the themes of beauty, love, and conflict, themes that can feel so ever present in these times we live in.

After the Sunday Service

Because of the rising number of Covid cases in Washtenaw County, we are serving grab-and-go donuts and ask that you remain masked at all times in the building; this includes the Social Hall.

[Please read the updates from our Covid Advisory Team sent out May 18.](#)

Featured Event

Benefit Concert for Refugee Ukrainian Relief, Featuring Tret Fure

Saturday, May 21, 7:00pm - 9:00pm

Please join us in person for acclaimed award-winning contemporary folk artist Tret Fure in a benefit concert to support the Ukrainian Relief Fund at

[FemFund.PL](https://www.femfund.pl/).



This is an in-person performance at UUAA, 4001 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd., Ann Arbor.

Admission is free, though donations are requested; 100% of all donations will go to the Refugee Relief Fund.

Space is limited, so registration is required. **[This link takes you to the registration form.](#)**

Please read **[UUAA's Covid-19 policies](#)** for in-person events.

What if you can't come but want to donate to the Ukrainian Relief Fund? **[Use this link and scroll](#)** to "Tret Fure Benefit Concert."

Upcoming Events & Announcements
For a full list of events, [visit the UUAA Calendar.](#)



New Art in the Sanctuary

It's fitting that in a month focused on the theme of Beauty, we have something beautiful and new to celebrate in our Sanctuary. Thanks to the brilliant work of fiber artist and community member Betsy Price (in collaboration with Cynthia Dunitz) we have three new tapestries on our chancel.

Our previous tapestry, which was created by Betsy Price and Barb Hall, has been moved to the hallway outside the Sanctuary so we can continue to enjoy that too. This Sunday, join us in thanking Betsy and all those who helped with the project (Chuck Price, debita graham, and Ed Lynn) and learn more about the symbolism of this stunning artwork.



Upholding Our Values Capital Campaign

Please consider supporting UUAA through the Capital Campaign, which will fund major changes, most importantly, paying off our mortgage and—but not limited to—working toward one of our Vision 20/50 Foundational Areas—Financial Stability. [Find more information here.](#)

Thank you to all who have made a three-year Capital Campaign commitment; our hurting world and UUAA needs all of us



Humanist Discussions

Thursday, May 19, 2:00pm - 4:00pm

Monday, May 23, 7:00pm - 9:00pm

Topics for Thursday, May 19: "Abortion Battle Precursor to Larger Struggles," by Fareed Zaharia; "How to Pray to a God You Don't Believe In," by Scott Hershovitz; "Why One Evangelical Pastor Left a Radicalized, Post-Jan. 6 America Behind," by Patrick Smith; and "Good Thinking," by Massimo Pigliucci

Topics for Monday, May 23: “Good Thinking,” by Massimo Pigliucci; “Some People Turn Suffering Into Wisdom,” by David Brooks; and “America Has a Scorn Problem,” by Tish Harrison Warren

Lively groups of Humanists have been meeting for over 20 years at UUA, 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, and more. All are welcome. All meetings are still virtual. To get on our email list, get the Zoom login information, or get answers to any other questions, send a query to humanistgroupinfo@uuaa.org.



Mindful Aging

Saturday, May 21, 1:00pm - 2:30pm

Join other UUs for a Zoom discussion of the UM Healthy Aging lectures given during April. The topic “Brain Health” included presentations on dementia, treatments, exercise, sleep, caregiving, and more. To view the recorded lectures, [click here](#). For the Zoom link for UUA’s discussion on May 14, email Sandy Breck at sbreck@umich.edu.



Introduction to Islam for UUs

Wednesday, May 25, 7:00pm - 8:30pm

How might Unitarian Universalists understand and relate to Islam, as a faith tradition? Please join us for this three-part seminar, co-sponsored by the Church of the Larger Fellowship and the First UU Congregation of Ann Arbor, Michigan, for Unitarian Universalists to move into a deeper understanding of the Islamic faith and its beliefs and traditions.

Unitarian Universalist–Muslim leaders, Reverend Summer Albayati and Reverend Doctor Mellen Kennedy, will co-lead this seminar. Advance registration is required. For more information and to register, [click here](#).



Kaleidoscope Trans Advocacy Organizing Meeting

Thursday, May 26, 6:00pm, via Zoom

Trans and nonbinary people's rights—including access to healthcare, restrooms, and athletic opportunities—are under attack across the country and in Michigan. Join us to learn more about the current state of anti-trans legislation and to develop a strategy to advocate for trans rights.

We encourage you to [watch the webinar held by UUA and The Trevor Project](#) in advance, but please attend regardless!

Please [sign up here](#) so we can send the Zoom link closer to the event. Questions? Email KaleidoscopeInfo@uuaa.org.



TrUU Hope Meetups (with snacks!)

Sunday, May 29, 12:00pm - 3:00pm (after the service)

Join us for pizza and crafts and to hang out!

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 TruuHopelInfo@uuaa.org.



Memory Loss Caregivers Support Group Meeting

Wednesday, June 1, 3:00pm - 4:30pm via Zoom

The Memory Loss Caregivers Support Group is sponsored by the UUA Pastoral Care Team and the Great Lakes Chapter of the Alzheimer's Association. Joan Burleigh, Priscilla Spencer, and Sandy Kunkle are the facilitators.

If you have a friend, spouse, or partner with memory loss and you are interested in local support, you are invited to attend our next Zoom meeting on Wednesday, June 1 from 3:00pm - 4:30pm. For information and the Zoom link, contact either facilitator for June: Joan at joburleigh@aol.com or Sandy at sandykunkle@gmail.com.



Habitat for Humanity Build Season Begins

Saturday, June 4

Habitat for Humanity (H4H) Build Season Begins

Our summer build season is about to begin. This year's Good News House is in the West Willow neighborhood of Ypsilanti, at 893 Nash Ave.

Our workdays are:

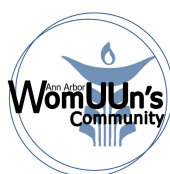
- Saturday, June 4
- Friday, June 24
- Friday, July 15
- Possible August days

Lunches:

- Bring your own sandwiches
- UUAA will supply drinks and dessert.

Signup for working and/or lunch donations:

- [Use our SignUpGenius site.](#)
- Visit us at the H4H table between Sunday services.
- Have a look at [our web page](#) for more details and links.

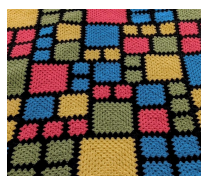


Monthly Women's Breakfast

Saturday, June 4, 8:30am

Early risers—join other women from UUAA for breakfast and conversation on the first Saturday of the month starting in June. It's been a long, lonely, and isolated pandemic. We hope you'll feel safe gathering in person once again.

The first breakfast is June 4 at the Alpha Diner (new name for the former Classic Cup Café, where we met pre-pandemic; 4389 Jackson Rd., Ann Arbor). Check the menu at www.Alphadiner.com. Contact Judi Marks or Joan Wells at womuuncouncilinfo@uuaa.org.



UUAA Fiber Arts Group

Saturday, June 4, 11:00am - 1:00pm, in person

Wednesday, June 15, 7:00pm - 9:00pm via Zoom

Come knit, crochet, embroider, or engage in some form of fiber arts together. UUAA 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 on the first Saturday of the month, 11:00am - 1:00pm in person at the UUAA Young Room, and on the third Wednesday of the month, 7:00pm - 9:00pm on Zoom. For a Zoom link or questions, send us an email at crafters@uuaa.org.



SPOTANO Zoom Meeting

Saturday, June 4, 1:00pm - 2:30pm

SPOTANO (Supportive Parents of Trans and/or Non-binary Offspring) is having our first Zoom gathering.

We are starting a friendly group to help each other support our trans offspring.

This is not a therapy group; we are parents who share similar life experiences and want to do well by our kids, no matter what age they are. Join us to tell your story and hear others!

Email JJ for more info and the link to the Zoom at TrUUHopelInfo@uuaa.org.



Final Bylaw Change to Be Voted On

Sunday, June 5

Information Sessions Result in Updates to Proposed Bylaws Change

Thank you to all who attended the information sessions on the proposed bylaws changes. The discussion was fruitful.

Based on discussion from the two sessions the language has been tweaked a bit and is available for final review (link below) before the June 5 meeting.

If approved, the bylaw would set the number of members of the Leadership Development Team at seven (instead of five), and increase the number of members elected by the congregation. It also removes the requirement of appointing one recent former Trustee to the committee.

[Proposed Bylaw Change for 2022](#)

[Rationale for 2022 Bylaw Changes Congregation](#) - Google Docs

Volunteers Needed for Magic Summer for K–6th Grade

Sundays, June 19 - August 7, 10:15am - 11:45am

Our summer session begins on June 19. This year we will



be using Soul Matters' brand new eight-week curriculum, "Magic Summer." Each Sunday, we will need one lead teacher and two or three assistants to help run this fun, simple, and engaging curriculum. You can help with the lesson or serve as a playground monitor.

The simple Sunday morning lessons are based on four magic "S's"...

- Service to Others
- Silence and Mindfulness
- Sunshine and Movement
- Silliness!

If you have been looking for an opportunity to give back, this might be the perfect opportunity! No need to commit to the entire summer; even if you can only help out on one Sunday, we would be so grateful!

If you are interested in signing up, please [click on this link](#).

If you have questions about the program or want to learn more about each session, please email Stella Anderson at stella@uuaa.org.



Introduction to Our Faith

Wednesdays, June 22 & 29, 7:00pm - 9:00pm, via Zoom
Register by Thursday, June 16

This two-session Zoom class launches you on your path toward membership in this congregation. We will share our spiritual journeys, cover 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 deadline is Thursday, June 16.** Questions? Email Welcome Ministries Coordinator Hannah Hotchkiss at Hannah@uuaa.org.



General Assembly (GA) 2022

Wednesday - Sunday, June 22 - June 26
Portland, OR

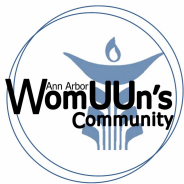
- **Ware Lecturer** (featured speaker) at GA this year will be Ibram X. Kendi, author of *How to Be an Antiracist*
- **GA Theme:** "Meet the Moment: Reimagining Radical Faith Community"

General Assembly (GA) is the annual meeting of our Unitarian Universalist

Association (UUA). Participants worship, witness, learn, connect, and make policy for the Association through democratic process. GA can be attended in-person or online.

Housing and GA registration are now open. Go to uua.org/ga to learn more and register.

We need delegates to represent UUA at GA. If you're interested in being a delegate or have questions, email denomination@uuaa.org.



WomUUn's Retreat—Seeking Workshop Presenters and Crafters

Friday - Sunday, October 7 - 9

- **Present a Workshop:** Would you like to teach a class at the 2022 WomUUn's Retreat? Workshops should fit in the theme "Finding Joy!" and should be 60 - 90 minutes in length. Proposals will be reviewed by the committee and selections made to provide variety and depth in our weekend curriculum.
- **Display your "WomUUn's Wares":** We encourage women crafters, artists, authors, musicians, etc. to bring items they have made to the retreat. Attendees will be able to view and purchase handicrafts, art, music, and books.

Contact WomUUnRetreat@UUA.org.



WomUUn's Retreat—Join the Committee!

We are seeking two co-chairs and many committee members to help plan our 2022 in-person WomUUn's Retreat. Meetings are twice a month by Zoom for about an hour. Tasks relate to promoting the retreat, recruiting session leaders and planning sessions, talking with camp staff about meals, lodging, and session locations.

- Save the Date for WomUUn's Retreat! October 7 - 9, YMCA Camp Copneconic, Fenton, Michigan
- Sign up to help plan the retreat! Email WomUUnRetreat@UUA.org.



Equal Exchange Fair Trade Coffee Sales

Equal Exchange sales support UUA, the UU Service Committee (UUSC), and small farmers.

This month, as a congregation, we honor UUSC with our donations. It is

important to remember our sales benefit UUSC year round! Please come to the Equal Exchange Fair Trade UUSC Table in the Social Hall after both services every Sunday to shop for coffee, tea, chocolate, nuts, olive oil from Palestinians, and more. All of our sales benefit UAAA and the UUSC while helping small farmers around the world who have been hit hard by the pandemic.



Action Alert from UUs for Justice in the Middle East

From Americans for Justice in Palestine (AJP): In one of the biggest forced-expulsion rulings since Israel began occupying Palestinian territories in 1967, Israel's high court announced that over **1000 Palestinians can be forcibly displaced from Masafer Yatta, a city in the West Bank**. Israel's displacement of Palestinians and demolition of their homes and businesses constitutes a "grave breach" of international humanitarian law, specifically, the **Fourth Geneva Convention**, which prohibits "extensive destruction and appropriation of property" and "unlawful deportation or transfer."

Take Action: **Contact Congress**. AJP is affiliated with American Muslims for Palestine. Questions? Email uujme@uuaa.org.



Petitions for Justice and Democracy

Deadlines are fast approaching for important ballot proposals, and, without enough signatures, many are at risk of not appearing on the November ballot. Please visit the "Petition Table" in the Social Hall after Sunday Services to learn more about these important proposals:

- Promote the Vote 2022
- Reproductive Freedom for All
- Michigan United (aka Good Time)
- Raise the Wage

UUCivs, Kaleidoscope, and Restorative Justice are working together to support these initiatives that lift up our UU values of justice and democracy!

Not attending UAAA in person? Email uucivs@uuaa.org—we'll help you sign!

[Request a Room](#), [Request an Outdoor Space](#) | [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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