



## FIRST UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION OF ANN ARBOR

### This Week at UUAA April 21- 27, 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.*

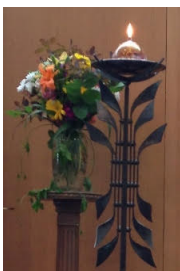
The *Weekly News* is distributed each Thursday. Deadlines for submissions are Tuesdays at 5:00pm.

The deadline for the *Weekly News April 28 - May 4* is Tuesday, April 26 at 5:00pm Eastern [through this form](#).

The deadline for the *May Monthly Newsletter* is Thursday, April 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](mailto:communications@uuaa.org).

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



#### **Sunday Worship** **"Our UU Interdependence with Planet Earth: An Earth Day Multi-Generational Service"**

*Sunday, April 24, 9:30am & 11:30am*

*In person and online at [uuaa.org/service](http://uuaa.org/service)*

Unitarian Universalism holds as one of its core principles our human interdependence with our planet, the environment, and other living beings. We invite you to celebrate our relationship with the planet we call home through our first Dirt Communion.

Please bring a bit of dirt from a place that is special to you to share with the community. All ages are invited to join us for this multi-generational service, as we celebrate and honor Earth Day.

Please note: SGD classes for Kindergarten through 7th grade will NOT meet. 8th/9th Grade OWL will have class as usual. YRUU youth have the option of meeting in the Harper Room or attending the worship service. Nursery and preschool care will be available for both services.

### **After the Sunday Service**

Social Hour is back. After each service (10:30am and 12:30pm), refreshments will be served in the Social Hall. You may now remove your mask while eating or drinking in the Social Hall. Please watch or read our updated Covid protocols below. There will be a limited number of group display tables to browse, also.

**Please note the UUAA's updated Covid Precautions Policy and Protocols:** *Anyone entering the UUAA 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. Members may remove their masks in the Social Hall while eating and drinking.

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



### **UUAA'S ACTING DIRECTOR POSITIONS: AN UPDATE FROM THE UUAA PERSONNEL WORKING GROUP**

Dear Members & Friends of our UUAA Community,

As previewed in our March 2022 update, Personnel Working Group member Leigh Robertson has now completed an assessment process related to our community's two Acting Director positions, the Acting Director of Spiritual Growth and Development and the Acting Director of Music Ministries. The analysis of the feedback that our community provided is now complete, and this email contains a high-level summary of the qualitative data that was gathered. Based on this data, UUAA is now able to share how we will be proceeding with regards to these two positions. Finally, this message contains some additional reminders and updates that you might find helpful.

[Read more here.](#)

### **Sunday Services "Snapshot" Survey Results** **By Rev. Manish Mishra-Marzetti, Senior Minister**





On February 13, 2022, a “snapshot” survey was conducted, both virtually and in-person, during our Sunday morning services soliciting feedback from that morning’s attendees on UUAA’s Sunday services. Attendees were given the opportunity to offer open-ended written feedback, and were encouraged to name their most significant point(s) of appreciation and/or their most significant point(s) of suggestion regarding our Sunday services. The level of participation in this survey was broad, with 132 adults responding to the snapshot survey. As a reference point, UUAA currently has 598 adult members. As such, the data obtained represents a significant sample of our UUAA community. We’d like to take this opportunity to share with you some of the insights that emerge from this survey. [Click here to read more.](#)



## Building and Grounds Support Needed

If you would like to contribute to the life of our congregation in an active, hands-on way, I invite you to join our Building Care or Grounds Care teams!

Recent staff restructuring has created the need for lay-led teams to help keep UUAA the welcoming, safe, and beautiful place we love.

### Sunday Building Care

There are two shifts—8:00am to 11:00am and 11:00am to 2:00pm—so team members can attend one of the services. You can also partner with someone to share the work. Some specific tasks include: unlocking/locking doors, putting out/bringing in UUAA sandwich boards and flags, moving/putting away tables, etc.

### Grounds Care

UUAA owns a riding lawn mower, but it needs a small team of drivers! We can also use more help with maintaining our beautiful gardens and trails.

Training will be provided. Interested? [Fill out this Google Form](#) and let me know how you’d like to help—I’ll be in touch!

Thank you!  
Lissa Oliver  
Building Care Team Volunteer

## Farewell Gathering for Don Hackney

*Sunday, May 1, Social Hall following both services*

Please join us on Sunday, May 1 after either the 9:30am or 11:30am service as we honor Don Hackney with cake and



fellowship. Don came on staff in the fall of 2018 as the Building and Grounds Manager and will be dearly missed as his time with and service to the congregation comes to an end. If you feel moved to more tangibly express your gratitude to Don for his service, there will be baskets available for financial contributions of cash and checks. (Please make out checks directly to Don Hackney and not

UUAA.)



### **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. This is an in-person performance at UUAA, 4001 Ann Arbor-Saline Rd, Ann Arbor. Admission is free – donations are requested, 100% of which 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 and health and safety policies for in-person events.

Can't come but want to donate to the Ukrainian Relief Fund? [Use this link and scroll](#) to "Tret Fure Benefit Concert"



### **Humanist Discussions**

*Thursday, April 21, 2:00pm - 4:00pm*

*Monday, April 25, 7:00pm - 9:00pm*

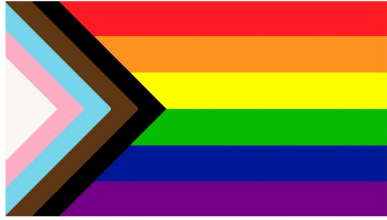
Topics for Thursday: "Give me that Old Time Atheism"; "Why there is no afterlife"; and more.

Topic for Monday: Climate change

Lively groups of Humanists have been meeting for over 20 years at UUAA, 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 login information, or get answers to any other questions, send a query to [humanistgroupinfo@uuaa.org](mailto:humanistgroupinfo@uuaa.org).

**TrUU Hope Meetups (with snacks!)**





Friday, April 22, 7:00pm - 9:00pm (Earth Day!  
Walk the land)  
Friday, May 13, 7:00pm - 9:00pm (Friday the  
13th! Spooky crafts)  
Sunday, May 22, 1:00pm - 3:00pm

TrUU Hope is a UAAA 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](mailto:TruuHopeInfo@uuaa.org).



### **Regenerative Agriculture**

Friday, April 22, 6:30pm - 8:00pm  
In person at the Ann Arbor District Library Westgate Branch

Regenerative Agriculture: What is it, how can it save the planet, and how are local farmers putting it into practice?

Five area farmers will come together to discuss how they practice regenerative agriculture, and why doing so is important to them and to the planet.

The panel features:

- Alex Ball, Old City Acres, Romulus
- Shannon Brines, Brines Farm, Dexter
- Hannah Rose Weber, Green Things Cooperative, Ann Arbor
- John Cox, Baseline Farm, Dexter
- Dan Gannon, Community Farm of Ann Arbor

Co-sponsored by the Food Justice Team and the Ann Arbor District Library



### **Green Corner: 20th Annual Wild & Scenic Film Festival**

Friday - Wednesday, April 22 - 27

Looking for a fun way to celebrate Earth Day, get inspired, and support a good nonprofit? Watch the 20th Annual Wild & Scenic Film Festival, presented online by the Citizens' Climate Lobby.

[Click here for more information](#) and to purchase tickets. The link you

receive will be active April 22 - 27. Films will be broadcast live on April 22, or watch the recorded films at any time during the five-day period.

Tickets: \$25 (\$15 for students). Enter code CCLAA for a five-dollar discount.

[Watch a trailer here.](#)



### **Sunday FunDay: Earth Day Celebration**

*Sunday, April 24 after 2nd Service, 12:30pm*

Join us in the courtyard outside the Social Hall for "earth sundaes," followed by Earth Day activities on the lawn or in the Social Hall.

[Sign up here](#) to help with this event or email Welcome Ministries Coordinator Hannah Hotchkiss at [hannah@uuuaa.org](mailto:hannah@uuuaa.org).



**YOUTH v GOV**

### **YOUTH v GOV – Watch It / Talk About It**

*Sunday, April 24, 2:00pm - 4:00pm*

Join other climate-concerned UUAA friends to watch the documentary *YOUTH v GOV*, the story of the *Juliana v. The United States of*

*America* constitutional lawsuit and the 21 American youth, ages 14 to 25, who are taking on the U.S. government over the climate crisis. This film is the featured film of **Interfaith Power and Light's Faith Climate Action Week**, April 22 - May 1. Their theme is Sacred Trust: Our children's right to a livable future."

UUAA Zoom viewing opportunity

- Sunday, April 24, 2:00pm – [Get the link here.](#)

Then come together for a Zoom discussion of the documentary:

- Sunday, May 1, 2:00pm – [Get the link here.](#)

Climate Action | Climate Justice Team: Jeannine LaPrad, Ruth Mohr, Sandy Simon, Ed Lynn, Kate Hutchens



### **Information Sessions on Proposed Bylaws Changes**

*Sunday, April 24, 2:00pm - 4:00pm*

*Monday, May 2, 6:30pm - 7:30pm*

The community is invited to attend one of two information/comment/question sessions on proposed bylaws changes that will be voted on at the UUAA June congregational meeting.



Proposed changes involve the Leadership Development Team, including the number of members on the committee, and increasing the number of committee members decided by congregants.

There will be two opportunities to attend a Zoom session on bylaws proposed changes. The sessions will be identical in presentation, so attendance is according to availability.

- **Sunday, April 24, 2:00pm - 3:00pm** [Register here](#) to receive the link.
- **Monday, May 2, 6:30pm - 7:30pm** [Register here](#) to receive the link.

In the meantime, congregants are invited to become familiar with the proposed bylaws changes and the rationale for them by clicking the following links.

- [Proposed Revisions to UUAU Bylaws - June 2022](#)
- [Rationale for 2022 Bylaw Changes Congregation](#)

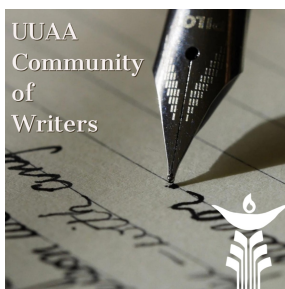


### **Bring Your Shoes**

*Sunday, April 24, Social Hall following both services*

**S&D PJ Housing**, a Wayne County organization that provides support services for women transitioning out of prison, is holding a shoe collection fundraiser. Just drop off your gently used women's shoes at the

Restorative Justice table in the Social Hall on Sunday, April 24. S&D PJ Housing was founded by Voting Access for All member, E.B. Jordan, who was once incarcerated for two years. She's had hands-on experience facing transitioning back into society and has founded several businesses including **S&D PJ Housing**. For more information, go to their [website](#) or email [s.an.d@pjhousing.org](mailto:s.an.d@pjhousing.org), or contact UUAU representative Carolyn Madden at [cgmadden@gmail.com](mailto:cgmadden@gmail.com).



### **Community of Writers Zoom Meeting**

*Sunday, April 24, 1:00pm - 3:00pm*

Pauline Loewenhardt will coordinate the readings of the Community of Writers' responses to her suggested prompt, "Did your writing begin in childhood or appear later in life? What are your aspirations as a writer?"

When did you dare to call yourself a writer?" Members may choose to read their writing on an alternate topic in any genre. Readings are limited to five minutes and are followed by appreciative comment.

Contact Kathy Friedrichs at [kamf@umich.edu](mailto:kamf@umich.edu) or Anne Ramsey at [anneramsey2910@comcast.net](mailto:anneramsey2910@comcast.net) for more information and the Zoom link.



## Support Voting Access for All

*Friday, April 29, 12:30pm -1:30pm, via Zoom*

Join a vibrant group of justice-seekers and barrier-breakers to help mobilize voters in their communities. The Voting Access for All Coalition (VAAC), a UUCivs partner, is hosting a voter outreach kick-off event.

Learn skills and strategies from people with experience and connect with others to help inform and inspire voters. Commit the time you can—hang posters, drop off voting materials at jails, or engage people at community events.

**RSVP here.** Questions? Email [uucivs@uuaa.org](mailto:uucivs@uuaa.org).



## Warrior Lawyers: Defenders of Sacred Justice

*Friday, April 29, 6:30pm - 8:30pm, via Zoom*

Join Restorative Justice of UUA and co-sponsors Michigan UU Social Justice Network, Michigan Collaborative to End Mass Incarceration, Friends of Restorative Justice, and Detroit Justice Center in the viewing and panel discussion of this powerful documentary of Sacred Justice through "the examination of Tribal Sovereignty ... as well as Restorative Justice practices such as Peacemaking and Healing." The panel includes the film's director, Audrey Geyer; Chief Judge Joanne Cook, chief appellate judge of the Michigan Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians; and Chief Judge Allie Greenleaf Maldonado, chief judge of the Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians in Harbor Springs.

**Register here.**



## May Sharing the Collection

*Sunday, May 1*

On Sunday, May 1, we will share our collection with the **Unitarian Universalist Service Committee (UUSC)**.

Mission: "UUSC advances human rights and social justice around the world, partnering with those who confront unjust power structures and mobilizing to challenge oppressive policies. Our work is grounded in the belief that all



people have inherent power and dignity." Visit them online at [www.uusc.org](http://www.uusc.org),

Questions? Contact Jan Duncan at [janetdunc@gmail.com](mailto:janetdunc@gmail.com).



### **Memory Loss Caregivers Support Group**

*Wednesday, May 4, 3:00pm - 4:30pm, via Zoom*

Are you concerned about or caring for a friend, partner, spouse, or parent who is experiencing memory loss? If so, you are invited to share your story, ask questions, and receive support on your caregiver journey in a safe and confidential space. Join fellow travelers at the next meeting of the Memory Loss Caregivers Support Group. The group is jointly sponsored by the UUAA Pastoral Care Team and the Alzheimer's Association. For information or Zoom link, contact Joan at [joburleigh@aol.com](mailto:joburleigh@aol.com), Priscilla at [paspencer44@yahoo.com](mailto:paspencer44@yahoo.com), or Sandy at [sandykunkle@gmail.com](mailto:sandykunkle@gmail.com).



### **Vision 20/50 Reflection Session**

*Wednesday, May 4, 7:00pm - 8:30pm*

What have we learned this year in our Vision 20/50 efforts? What worked? Where can we improve? Please join the Vision Steering Committee for our first annual Vision 20/50 Reflection session on May 4, 7:00pm - 8:30pm on Zoom. We'd like to hear from YOU—no matter where you fit into this diverse congregation. **RSVP here** to receive the Zoom link. If you cannot attend, we'd welcome your input by email at [vision@uuua.org](mailto:vision@uuua.org).



### **Garden Party—Help Improve Accessibility in the Memorial Garden**

*Saturday, May 7, 10:00am - noon*

Garden Stewards seek three to six persons with strong backs to assist us with improving accessibility by spreading pea gravel in the Memorial Garden and on the walking paths surrounding it. No previous experience needed! Beverages, snacks, singing, and fellowship provided! Questions? Contact Kim at [kimclugston1973@yahoo.com](mailto:kimclugston1973@yahoo.com).

### **UUAA Fiber Arts Group**

*Saturday, May 7, 11:00am - 1:00pm, Young Room*

*Wednesday, May 18, 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](mailto:crafters@uuaa.org).



### Mindful Aging

*Saturday, May 14, 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 UUAA’s discussion on May 14, email Sandy Breck at [sbreck@umich.edu](mailto:sbreck@umich.edu).



### Newcomer Chalice Circle | Covenant

*Saturday, May 21, 1:00pm - 3:00pm, via Zoom*

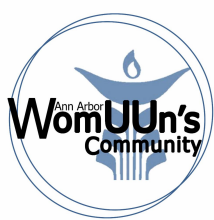
***Register here*** by Sunday, May 15 (*Link Here*)

If you are new to UUAA and want to get to know others who are new while exploring a basic tenet of Unitarian Universalism, join us for a discussion of what it means to be a covenantal religion. How does this differ from a creedal religion? What inspirations or challenges are presented with a covenant? You will receive short reflections and questions in advance; we will practice a deep listening format during the discussion. We ask that when you sign up that you commit to attending and to log into the Zoom room by the start time. [Register here](#). Questions? Email Welcome Ministries Coordinator Hannah Hotchkiss at [Hannah@uuaa.org](mailto:Hannah@uuaa.org).

You can register through the [link here](#) in our *Weekly News*, by filling out a paper registration on Sundays, or by emailing [Hannah@uuaa.org](mailto:Hannah@uuaa.org).

**Monthly Women’s Breakfast  
Resumes in June**





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](http://www.Alphadiner.com). Contact Judi Marks or Joan Wells at [womuuncouncilinfo@uuaa.org](mailto:womuuncouncilinfo@uuaa.org).



## General Assembly (GA) 2022

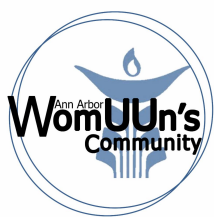
Wednesday - Sunday, June 22 - June 26  
Portland, OR

- **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 registration are now open. Go to [uua.org/ga](http://uua.org/ga) to learn more and register.

We need delegates to represent UUAA at GA. If you're interested in being a delegate or have questions, email [denomination@uuaa.org](mailto:denomination@uuaa.org) by April 30.



## Women's Retreat

Friday - Sunday, October 7 - 9, 2022

Two co-chairs and many committee members are needed to immediately begin planning our Women's Retreat to be held in October 2022. The retreat will be held in person at YMCA Camp Copneconic in Fenton, 40 minutes north of Ann Arbor. Meetings will be about twice a month for about an hour. Tasks relate to promoting the retreat, recruiting session leaders, planning sessions, and talking with camp staff about meals, lodging, and session locations. Contact Amy Thomas or Judi Lintott at [womuuncouncilinfo@uuaa.org](mailto:womuuncouncilinfo@uuaa.org).

Sharing Radical Welcome Learnings from



## the Gathering Table

Over 70 congregants participated in the April 3 Radical Welcome Gathering Table. The common refrain at the end was, “We need more time for this conversation!” [Here is the summary of responses](#) to the post-event evaluation with lots of ideas for Radical Welcome priorities for next year and beyond.

If you would like a link to the recording of the April 3 Radical Welcome Gathering Table, email [RadicalWelcome@uuaa.org](mailto:RadicalWelcome@uuaa.org). (This recording is in the process of being edited, so we ask for your patience.)

To view the April 3 worship service, *Living into Radical Welcome*, [click here](#).

Individually, there are so many ways—big or small—to support Radical Welcome. What works for you? We are at [RadicalWelcome@uuaa.org](mailto:RadicalWelcome@uuaa.org) if you'd like to connect and discuss.



## Quiche Family Settles In

UUAA welcomes the Quiche (kee-chay) family to our community. Mom, twin nine-year-old girls, and the boys, twelve and sixteen, arrived from Guatemala at the end of March. An inviting apartment with a peaceful view and well-stocked cupboards awaited them. The family's first few weeks here have been busy with papers to fill out, things to discover, and new friends to make. Many thanks to all the UUAA family resettlement volunteers and financial contributors. For more information, contact [resettlement@uuaa.org](mailto:resettlement@uuaa.org).



## Scrip Mechanics 102

“Did you know you can purchase SCRIP (gift cards) in Realm? No checks, no cash, just a few clicks in your account under the ‘giving’ tab on Realm! I found myself at church on Sunday without my checkbook AND needing gas cards. Carolyn told me I could do it through my Realm account, and within 30 seconds I had my gas cards in hand. The process was super easy and convenient. If you are not on Realm yet or need help, I'd be happy to walk you through it!” —Beth Hospadaruk

## Habitat Build Season Is Almost Here

The Habitat for Humanity annual on-site build is almost upon us. The Good News House committee has chosen our build





dates—you can find them on our [website](#).

While you're on the website, you can volunteer to work on specific dates, to help provide lunches, or to donate to help us meet our goal of \$7,000.

Join in this fun and rewarding project.

Questions? Email [h4h@uuaa.org](mailto:h4h@uuaa.org).

## Links

[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

**First Unitarian Universalist Congregation Of Ann Arbor**

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