



First Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Ann Arbor

A liberal religious voice in Ann Arbor since 1865

UUAA February 2019 Newsletter

February 2019 Newsletter - Vol. 15, Issue 2

Congregational Links

UUAA.org | [Calendar of Events](#) | [Social Justice at UUAA](#) | [Make a Pledge](#)

Other Links of Interest

UUA.org | MidAmericaUUA.org | [Side with Love](#)

Weaving Worship

Dr. Glen Thomas Rideout, Director of Worship & Music

February 2019 | Trust UUAA's Worship Planning Team

Dr. Glen Thomas Rideout, Director of Worship and Music
Rev. Cassandra Hartley, Assistant Minister for Spiritual Growth & Development
Rev. Lindasusan V. Ulrich, Assistant Minister
Allison Halerz, Pianist-In-Residence
Rev. Manish Mishra-Marzetti, Senior Minister

February 3, 2019

Worship: 9:30am and 11:30am

Developing a Heart of Love and Trust

Join us as special guest Rev. John Buehrens, former President of the Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA), leads us in reflection on the times we are in and who we are called to be as Unitarian Universalists.

February 10, 2019

Worship: 9:30am and 11:30am

Trust Thyself

Ralph Waldo Emerson once wrote "Self-trust is the first secret of success." But why is it so important? And what do we do if our trust in ourselves has been broken? Join us as we explore the inner journey of trust.

February 17, 2019

Worship: 9:30am and 11:30am

The Underpinnings of Trust

What spiritual concepts/ideas ground and inform our sense of trust? Join us as we explore this topic as well as participate in our annual Ritual of Remembrance, honoring those who have deceased.

February 24, 2019

Worship: 9:30am and 11:30am

Earned or Given Freely

As we continue exploring the nature of trust, join us in this ethical exploration of the topic. To what extent must trust be earned? To what extent is it something we are called to give?



Dr. Glen Thomas Rideout
Director of Worship and Music
glen.thomas@uuaa.org



Worship Team Values



Sharing Our Values

By Manish Mishra-Marzetti, Cassandra Hartley, Lindasusan Ulrich, and Glen Thomas Rideout (UUAA's Worship Team)

Over the Fall of 2018, UUAA's Worship Team met in retreat format over several days to articulate and clarify the values that we collaboratively seek to hold and bring alive in our Sunday services.

While the balance of how these values are reflected on a given Sunday morning may shift week to week, based on the topic, format, or other needs, it is our shared goal to hold these values as consistently central to our Sunday morning leadership in the community over time.

We welcome your feedback/ideas related to these core values and invite you to join us in helping bring them alive in our community.

Worship Team Shared Values

Each week we work to create Sunday service experiences that are:

Inclusive

We honor:

- Unitarian Universalist principles, sources, and teachings
- UUAA's spiritual history and heritage

- Differing abilities
- Racial/ethnic diversity
- The full spectrum of sexual orientations and gender identities
- All economic circumstances
- Pluralism
- A variety of learning styles
- People of every age
- Many ways to access the message (words, music, storytelling, etc.)
- Current life circumstances (grief, joy, stress, etc.)

Collaborative

We value:

- The unique spiritual gifts of each individual
- Shared leadership
- An open exchange of ideas
- Consensus-building
- Curiosity
- Creativity

Beautiful

We strive for:

- Professional quality
- Finely crafted words, music, and visuals
- Spiritual flow
- Well-woven, poetic liturgy
- Humor

Meaningful

We're committed to:

- Thought-provoking content
- Exploring new ideas and perspectives
- Challenging ourselves and the congregation
- Bearing prophetic witness
- Depth
- Conjuring the connective power of communal music

Relational

We're rooted in:

- Community-building
- Responsiveness to the energy and needs in the room
- Collegiality among team members that is warm, respectful, and playful
- Relationship with the wider world
- Relationship with UUism broadly

Moving

We seek to engender:

- Engagement with deeper values
- Connection to our best selves
- Inspiration
- Embodied worship
- Emotional depth
- Vulnerability
- Transformation

Pastoral Care at UUA



As your new Pastoral Care Coordinator, I see pastoral care as the way the community cares for itself. It is the embodiment of the love we share for each other, encompassing times of need and joy. Pastoral care is the umbrella term for all the care we offer each other. Many calls for short-term pastoral care can be met with effective coordination, congregant to congregant. Other calls for care, such as counseling for a serious medical diagnosis or loss of a loved one, need to be met by a minister.

Work is progressing to create an interactive system to meet the care needs in our large and growing congregation. I meet regularly with the ministers and staff to coordinate and provide care. Recruitment and training is underway for lay members to serve with me on our Care Team to facilitate a timely and effective response to requests for pastoral care. Working with the lay leaders of large group ministries, we're finding a member of each group who will serve and be trained as a liaison to the Care Team. We will soon be asking everyone's participation in our care network.

If you currently are in need of pastoral care, you can reach the Care Team in the following ways:

1. Call UUA a 734-665-6158 and ask for Pastoral Care. During office hours, you will be directed to Quiana Perkins, Pastoral Care Coordinator. After office hours, call the same number and follow the prompts to reach Quiana in the evening or leave a message.
2. Send an email to pastoralcare@uua.org.
(We will attempt to respond to your call or email within 24 hours.)
3. You can speak directly to Quiana or a member of the Care Team on Sunday during the Social Hour after each service. We can be found at the Pastoral Care/Involvement table at the east end of the Social Hall.

I look forward to being in community with you.

Quiana Perkins, Social Justice and Pastoral Care Coordinator

My office hours are Sunday 9:00-2:00; Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday 12:00-9:00 and Thursday 9:00-4:30.

For Your Calendar

Friday Fun Night * Friday, February 1



UUAA FRIDAY FUN NIGHT

Friday, February 1st
6:00pm - 9:00pm

From the Heart

This Month's Features

- * *Stories and Vignettes from Transcendentalism*, a talk by John Buehrens, former President of UUA
- * Dinner: Soup, Salad, and Sandwiches
- * Craft: Cards, Valentines, and Hearts
- * Kids Movie: *Inside Out*
- * Games for Kids and Adults

Everyone is welcome to attend, no need for a reservation. Suggested donation is \$5/person or \$20/family.



FRIDAYFUNNIGHT@UUAA.ORG

Friday Fun regularly serves vegetarian and non-vegetarian options. Email us a week in advance at fridayfunnight@uuaa.org if you need other dietary accommodations.

Alpha House Host Week * Monday - Sunday, February 4-10



Volunteer for or Make a Donation to Our Upcoming Host Week

The next UUAA Alpha House host week will be Monday-Sunday February 4-February 10. Alpha House is a shelter on Jackson Road for families experiencing temporary homelessness in Washtenaw County. UUAA needs 90 volunteers to provide food, serve meals, play with the kids, stay overnight, and be day hosts. If you can't volunteer, donate!

Up to \$400 is needed to cover supplies. Sign up online, tinyurl.com/AHFeb19 or sign up or donate on Sundays during Social Hour. Questions? Contact UUAA Alpha House Coordinating Committee at alphahouse@uuaa.org.




Memory Loss Caregiver Support * Wednesday, February 6




The Memory Loss Caregiver Support Group, sponsored by the UUAA Pastoral Care Team in partnership with the Alzheimer's Association, meets regularly the first Wednesday of each month from 3:00pm to 4:30pm in the David Room. It is a drop-in group, open to both members of the congregation and the larger community. We encourage congregants who may know a person giving care to someone with memory loss, to let them know that they are welcome to join the support group.

A support group offers caregivers, family members, and friends of people with memory loss the opportunity to ask questions, share stories, give and receive comfort, and gain practical knowledge. A confidential, positive setting for sharing experiences is known to be an important factor in how well one copes with caregiver stress. Questions? Contact Joan Burleigh at joburleigh@aol.com, Sandy Kunkle at sandykunkle@gmail.com, or Meredith Ley at meredithl888@gmail.com.



Senior Dinner Out * Wednesday, February 6

This is the second monthly Senior Dinner for the year! We will meet at 6:00 pm at Hot Pot Chen at 2255 West Stadium Blvd., Ann Arbor. You may just drop in since no reservations are required -- just fun and good conversation to solve the world's problems. Questions? Contact Marie Duke at 734-769-0467 or omaduke7@gmail.com.



Introduction to OUUr Faith * Wednesdays, February **13 & 20**



Introduction to OUUr Faith: Pathway to Membership Wednesdays, February 13 & 20 (2-Session Class) 6:30pm to 8:30pm

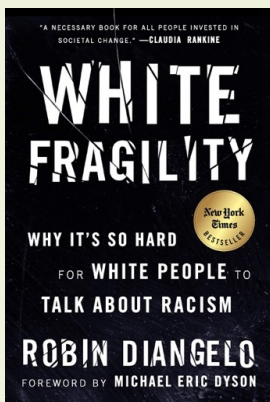
This class is an introduction to Unitarian Universalism. Taught by a UUAA minister, topics include the history of Unitarian Universalism and this congregation, how to get involved, exploring your calling, the sharing of spiritual journeys, and the meaning and responsibilities of membership. This class is a prerequisite for signing the membership book.

Please register by February 10. A minimum of 10 participants is needed to run the class and there is a maximum of 20. Registration forms are available at the Involvement Table during Social Hour, in the Newcomer Welcome Room, and in the front entrance literature rack. You can also register by using [this link](#) or emailing Hannah Hotchkiss directly at hannah@uuaa.org.

If you have any questions or need help registering, contact Welcome Ministries



White Fragility Book Discussion * Sunday, February 10



Challenging Racism invites you to discuss *White Fragility: Why It's So Hard for White People to Talk about Racism* by Robin DiAngelo from 1:15pm to 3:00pm in the Fahs Chapel.

White Fragility "...[opens] paths for white participants coming to terms with their own and others' fragile, defensive, and coded responses when a conversation turns to race" (beacon.org). This discussion will focus on recognizing our own fragility, and how to disrupt our white supremacy-based culture on an everyday basis. Books are available at the UUAA Bookstore.

Light refreshments will be served.

Questions? Contact Gina Boldman at boldman@comcast.net.



BLUU Online Worship * Sunday, February 17

UUAA Is Hosting a Black Lives of Unitarian Universalist (BLUU) Online Worship Watch Event!



**Doors Open at 3:45pm
Service Starts at 4:00pm**

Discussion & Light Refreshments to follow the Worship Service

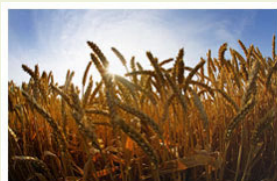
This Worship Service is Explicitly Black

BLUU's online worship service is Black sacred space in its entirety -- by and for Black people, with the words and voices of Black folks across the diaspora. We invite Black UU and Black UU-adjacent folks to attend. Please respect this event as a Black safe space.

Questions? Contact Quiana Perkins at quiana@uuaa.org.



...Preserving Rural Washtenaw County * Tuesday, February 26



The Mindful Eating Team is sponsoring a presentation, Farms and Open Space: Preserving Rural Washtenaw County, featuring the Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission's Natural Areas Preservation Program, members of the Legacy Land Conservancy, local farmers, and Argus Farm Stop. This Mindful Eating

community outreach event will be held at 7:00pm at the Westgate Branch of the Ann Arbor District Library.

This forum is for people who want to learn about open space in Washtenaw County: farms, forests, fields, and natural areas. We will talk about current preservation programs and organizations, opportunities for continuing conservation, and how to support our local farmers.

Questions? Contact Ruth Vail at ruthvail43@gmail.com.



News and Announcements

2019 Annual Goods & Services Auction



What's that tick tock you hear? Why, it's the auction countdown. Yes, it's coming back this Spring and we're just two months away.

This year's auction will be on Saturday, April 13, right here at UUAA. This year's theme is honoring that pleasant peninsula that surrounds us, Michigan.

What does that mean to you? All kinds of things, you curious soul. You can wear that fancy outfit you bought last year in Saugatuck, your old football jersey from Paw Paw High, or come as a character from Escanaba in Da Moonlight. It's up to you!

What can you expect? There'll be lots of cottages, dinners, services, and other items to bid on. There will be food catered by the Moveable Feast, drinks to purchase, and entertainment throughout the church.

What do we need? That's easy, we need you! If you have a skill (handy-personing, financial planning, tightrope walking) to share or a cottage to offer for bid, or would like to host a dinner or event, let us know. Donations are being accepted now. Just email auction@uuaa.org for more information.

Also, we will soon be selling tickets in the Social Hall, beginning on February 17, so please, buy one or two tickets. Heck buy as many tickets as you like. We can always print more!



Delegation to the U.S.-Mexican Border | 2019 Trips

Join us as we travel to the American Southwest to learn about important spiritual and civic issues related to our nation's southern border. Senior Minister Rev. Manish Mishra-Marzetti will personally lead two delegations during 2019 to Arizona, where we will meet with local grass-roots organizers and travel for a day to Mexico. The two travel opportunities will be in May and November of 2019, with a series of once-a-month seminars leading up to the first trip. We will be collaborating with the Unitarian Universalist College of Social Justice and an organization called Borderlinks, which specializes in experiential education related to border justice issues. For more information on Borderlinks, please feel free to visit <http://borderlinks.nationbuilder.com/history>.

Delegation Dates:

Saturday, May 11, 2019 through Thursday, May 16, 2019 (6 days, 5 nights)

OR

Saturday, Nov. 9, 2019 through Thursday, Nov. 14, 2019 (6 days, 5 nights)

To learn more, use this [link](#).



Climate Action News

Local Climate Action Shined Bright in 2018

In September, thousands across the country and around the world took to the streets in a massive show of solidarity for global climate action. Rise for Climate, Jobs, and Justice was a resounding success as climate activists gathered to speak out on the need for real climate action from local officials. UJAA members participated in the event on the U of M Flint campus. The UJAA Climate Action Group held a Climate Café in June and have begun a Climate Change section in the UJAA Library.

There Were Some Big Wins

In an historic move, New York City divested its \$189-billion pension fund from fossil fuels and committed to reinvest \$4 billion in solutions. Cincinnati became the 100th city to commit to 100% Renewables campaign. In December, Citizens Climate Lobby student members Catherine Garton and Lena Swirczek were interviewed for the show It's Hot In Here on WCBN (the UM student radio station). You can listen to it at <http://www.hotinhere.us/podcast/young-strong-voices-from-the-citizens-climate-lobby/>

The World's Top Climate Scientists Issued a Dire Warning

To avoid more than 1.5°C of global warming, our societies need a massive overhaul towards renewable energy. The IPCC report served as a wakeup call to every one of us: The global climate crisis is severely altering our lives as we know it. We must act now.

2019 Will Be a Pivotal Year in the Fight for Climate Justice

The bipartisan Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act, S. 3791 / H.R. 7173 was introduced in Congress. We need to get 100% behind this bill. Stay tuned for more information.

Thank you for being with us and with this movement. We're going to keep up the momentum in 2019 fighting harder than ever to stem the climate crisis.

Questions? Contact Tom Bauld at bauldt@comcast.net.



Immigration Action Coalition (IAC) Coat Drive

The Immigration Action Coalition (IAC) would like to thank everyone in our community who donated coats or volunteered during our coat drive for Borderland Rainbow Center.



Between Christmas Eve and New Year's Day between 1000 and 2000 migrants who had recently arrived to the United States were released onto the snowy streets of El Paso, Texas, where temperatures dropped to 11 degrees! Shelters became crowded and thrift shops quickly ran out of coats. A UUAA member was alerted to the need of coats and asked IAC to help organize a coat drive.

Between January 5 and January 13, you, the members of this congregation, donated over 245 coats and \$680 for shipping costs. They were shipped to El Paso, Texas on January 14. Thank you to everyone who donated and to Cheryl and Vey Valentine for their leadership.



Partner Church Transylvania Hosts



The 2018 Hosts of Anita & Gerry Sherman Moran

Anita writes: "Our delightful hosts in Romania were Attila and Brigitta Nagyoláh, who live in a small but beautiful and charming home in a village near Kézdivásárhely. Attila and Brigitta are the only two school teachers in the local village primary school.

Attila teaches the younger children and Brigitta the older age group. We were able to walk to the schoolhouse, just a few minutes from their home, to have a tour. The school consists of two rooms, each with a wood burning furnace that Attila and Brigitta stoke during the colder months. They proudly showed us many pictures taken of them with the children over the years, and it was clear that they were all family, especially since Attila and Brigitta don't have children of their own. This gave us a real and memorable sense of their community village life.

We also wandered through the fruit trees from their rose-surrounded home to visit with Attila's parents, who have a small farm with cows, pigs, and chickens next door. They too, were eager to share their abundant hospitality with their son's American guests. Attila and Brigitta, in spite of their limited spoken English, could not have been more lovely hosts, with their very comfortable home, healthy and delicious meals, and enthusiastic conversation. They also drove us around a lot to make sure we saw some of the local sites. This was one of the best parts of the trip, getting to know our new Romanian friends."



Scrip Program



A scrip testimonial from Bob Dinan: "Buying scrip is an easy and painless way to support the church. We usually fill up at Speedway, which rebates 4% to the church; Speedway has the highest rebate for gas. The MyScripWallet app on my phone, along with PrestoPay, makes it easy to reload my Speedway card on the go. I also buy scrip gift cards for retailers like Panera, Target, and Starbucks. I can load all of those cards into the respective apps on my phone, much more convenient than trying to remember to take the cards with me when I shop. Finally, for Amazon and iTunes, ScripNow is incredibly

convenient to purchase a scrip card right away. Then I can use it or gift it immediately. Once you establish your scrip routine, it's a very easy way to generate rebates to the congregation without a lot of extra effort on your part." Questions? Contact Bob at bdinan83@gmail.com or Carolyn Barber at cbarber@umich.edu.



Sharing the Collection



Your Contributions Make a Difference!

The Sharing the Collection Committee is happy to share the good news: On January 6, we raised \$2,731 for Friends in Deed (www.friendsindeed.org).

In 2018, we raised almost \$29,000 to benefit non-profit organizations in Washtenaw County who are serving the needy and the disadvantaged. Help us do even better in 2019: mark your calendar for these upcoming collections:

- February 3, the collection will go to National Alliance on Mental Illness in Washtenaw County (NAMWC).
- March 3, the collection will go to Michigan Unitarian Universalist Social Justice Network (MUUSJN).

Do you know a community-service organization in Washtenaw Country that would like to apply to be one of our recipients in 2020? Have them fill out the form located on our webpage: bit.ly/sharingthecollection.

Are you not able to attend services on the Sunday of Sharing the Collection? You can mail a check to the church, noting "Sharing the Collection" in the memo line.

Questions? Contact Bob Dinan at bdinan83@gmail.com.



Unitarian Universalist Service Committee (UUSC)



Spotlight on Honduras

From the rule of President Juan Orlando Hernandez beginning in 2009 forward, the situation in Honduras has continued to deteriorate. With his reelection in 2017, there was widespread nonviolent protest, which was dealt with harshly. The May 2017 faith delegation to Honduras reported that arrests, incarcerations, and murders continue. The country is also held hostage to private criminal networks who extort, recruit, and generally terrorize the citizens. UUSC advocates and lobbies for the reinstatement of temporary protective status for Hondurans here in the US and the suspension of security aid to the Honduran government until human rights abuses are addressed. The UUSC website describes clearly the role that our government has played in creating this tragic deterioration of Honduras and the degree that its policies have so negatively affected the Northern Triangle of Central America. Check out the UUSC website for the article "[5 Better Things To Do With 5 Billion Dollars.](#)"

Questions or comments? Contact Quincy Northrup at qnorthrup@gmail.com.

Did You Know...?

Rev. Cassandra Hartley, Assistant Minister for Spiritual Growth and Development, is honored to be joining the Green Sanctuary Advisory Board (part of the Unitarian Universalist Ministry for Earth). She is looking forward to bringing her passion for environmental justice - along with the inspiration she gets from all the wonderful environmental work our congregation has done - to the national movement.

Tell us of UUAA involvement on the national denominational level or in the wider community. Send your "Did You Know...?" submission to newsletter@uuaa.org.

On the Horizon

Challenging Racism Upcoming Events

Have you wanted to know more about the school-to-prison pipeline and how to disrupt it? Join us for a three-part film viewing followed by discussions of the new World Trust film *Healing Justice*. Save these dates:



Part 1: The Impact of Trauma, Sunday, March 3, 1:00pm-3:00pm in the Fahs Chapel

Part 2: Redefining Justice, Sunday, March 17, 1:00-3:00pm in the Fahs Chapel

Part 3: The Power of Healing, Sunday March 31, 1:00pm-3:00pm in the Fahs Chapel

Sign up at the Social Justice Table during Social Hour. Questions? Contact Kathy McLean at jdkamclean@comcast.net, Kathy Friedrichs at kamf@umich.edu, or Margaret Pekarek at mdawsonpekarek@gmail.com.

The Installation of Reverend Manish Mishra-Marzetti



Plans for the installation of Rev. Manish Mishra-Marzetti on April 7 are well under way! It'll be an exciting ceremony with guests arriving from out of town to help us celebrate this important occasion.

The installation will be at 4:00 pm on Sunday, April 7, followed by a reception at 5:30pm in the Social Hall. Child care will be provided.

Tret Fure will give a concert at 7:00pm on Saturday, April 6. Tret is a contemporary singer-songwriter and has worked in the genre known as women's music.

Installing a new senior minister is an important moment in the life of a congregation. It's the culmination of the process that began when we formed our ministerial search team in June 2017. The search team's work was analogous to dating. Candidating week in April 2018 was like more serious dating, at the end of

which the congregation voted to call Rev. Manish and he decided to accept our call. That was like becoming engaged. At the installation Rev. Manish and the congregation formalize our new relationship by making promises to each other. This is like taking vows and making commitments to each other at a wedding ceremony.

If you have questions, please contact installation@uuaa.org.



Welcome to Our Newest Member

Terrie DeBonis



Terrie has an eclectic background with strong roots in earth-based communities. The incredible music, the integrity of actively living the 7 principles, and the warmth of community have made the UUAA an irresistible and delightful spiritual home for Terrie and her son Elliot. She regularly attends and occasionally substitute teaches at Dreaming Julie's Dream Class held here on first Sundays.



Membership



Becoming a Member

Stepping Stones



Experience being part of the congregation by attending Sunday services and seeking out groups of interest.



Learn about the UU faith and history by attending an Introduction to Our Faith class. (For more information about registering for upcoming sessions, check the Sunday *Bulletin* or contact Welcome Ministries Coordinator Hannah Hotchkiss at hannah@uuaa.org.)



Upon completing [Introduction to Our Faith](#) and learning about the rights and responsibilities of membership, arrange with the Welcome Ministries Coordinator Hannah Hotchkiss to sign the membership book and submit paperwork.

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



Office and Building News

Publication Deadlines

Weekly Bulletin Deadline: Wednesdays at 5:00pm

Submissions should be sent as an attachment in Word format and limited to 90 words or fewer. Send submissions to bulletin@uuaa.org.

March Newsletter Deadline Thursday: February 21 at 9:00am

All submissions should be sent as an attachment in Word format and limited to 300 words or fewer. Send submissions to newsletter@uuaa.org.

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



Reserving a Room at UUAA

Submit your room requests by using our room reservation form link ([Request a Room](#)) found on the lower right corner of the home page at www.uuaa.org. Completing this form will allow the Room Team to accommodate requests for accessibility needs, room setup, audio/visual equipment, and special arrangements for large groups.

The UUAA room reservation calendar system is divided into two sessions:

- The **Congregational Program Session** | through Sunday, May 19, 2019
- The **Summer Program Session** | begins Monday, May 20, 2019.

Recurring events will be scheduled only within each session. If a recurring event flows into the next program session, a new room reservation request will need to be submitted.

If you are expecting 50 or more attendees, please submit a room request form and allow extra time for your request to be processed, as it will need to be approved by the UUAA staff prior to being placed on the calendar. Questions? Email room@uuaa.org.



Building Hours

Sunday | 8:30am to 4:00pm
Monday to Thursday | 9:00am to 9:00pm
1st & 3rd Friday | 5:00pm to 9:00pm
Other Fridays | Closed
Saturday | 9:00am to 4:00pm

Office: Monday - Thursday | 9:00am to 5:00pm

In observance of Presidents' Day, UUAA will be closed Monday, February 18.



See what's happening on our social sites:

