



First Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Ann Arbor

A liberal religious voice in Ann Arbor since 1865

UUAA November 2019 Newsletter

November 2019 Newsletter - Vol. 15, Issue 11

Congregational Links

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

[RECENT SUNDAY SERVICE ARCHIVE & POSTINGS](#): To listen/re-listen to a recent Sunday service, please feel free to access our audio archive.

Other Links of Interest

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

Weaving Worship



November | Attention

November's themes were crafted by the UUAA Worship Team, with creative input from the people of our community (through the monthly order of service insert available each month). Special thanks to Peggy, Kathy, Mark, Elizabeth, Colleen, Greg, Tracy, Ilene, Erik, Lorelle, Tim, Winona, Cheryl, Priscilla, Katy, Theresa, Sandy, Cathy, Ann, Sid, Kirsten, Vicki, Jan, Anne, Cecilia, Larry, Els, Barron, Laura, and Becky. Your voices make a difference in our community's spiritual growth.

November 3 | 9:30am & 11:30am

Tending Our Memories

The Memory Altar

Our memory altar draws on the Christian tradition of All Souls Day, a time held to honor the loved ones (human and not) and ancestors who have gone before us in

death, and begin transforming precious memories into sources of strength?

We invite you (children, youth, and adults alike) to bring a memento, photo, small object, or memorabile in honor of these loved ones and build up the altar.

November 10 | 9:30am & 11:30am

What's On First?

When 100 stories insist on every second of our heart's attention, where in this world do we start? Tools for discernment, priorities, and sustainability when every cause is worthy, no one can wait, and today's just begun.

November 17 | 9:30am & 11:30am

**Mending the Rending
and New Member Recognition**

Spiritual approaches to manage, renew, and deepen the capacity to be present to love's work in the 21st century. Spiritual guidance for justice seekers.

November 24 | 9:30am & 11:30am

Practice What We Preached

Can we attend whole truths, even in the broken places? Can we resist oversimplification, refuse to cast off the inconvenient, move deeper than guilt? Can we remember the horrible truths, revive the gift of gratitude, and censor neither? Preparing today's Unitarian Universalist for another day of Thanksgiving.



Peace,

Dr. Glen Thomas Rideout, Director of Worship and Music,
for our community's Worship and Music Team members:

Allison Halerz, Pianist-in-Residence

Rev. Cassandra Hartley, Assistant Minister for
Spiritual Growth & Development

Rev. Lindasusan V. Ulrich, Assistant Minister for Operations

Rev. Manish Mishra-Marzetti, Senior Minister

theresa rohlick, M. Div.



Senior Ministry Prioritized Goals for 2019-2020

In collaboration and consultation with the UUAA Board of Trustees, Rev. Manish has finalized the following prioritized goals and summary work plan for the senior ministry for the 2019-2020 congregational year:

1) Deepen and help articulate shared staff team understandings and staff team structures, in support of longer-term sustainability and stability on the staff team. This will be worked on by:

- Leading staff team reflection, conversation, and articulation of the ways in which the team is relating to and bringing alive our core UUAA values;
- Supporting the wider UUAA community in understanding how our core UUAA values inform and guide everything that the staff team is doing;
- Partnering with the UUAA Board Working Group on Personnel to continue improving and refining our documentation related to employment practices and expectations, including shared reflection on the longer-term staffing

structures that are affordable and sustainable for UUAA; and,

- Leading/guiding any necessary staffing reconfigurations/reimaginings that support UUAA's vision, UUAA's core values, and the goals of staffing sustainability and affordability, in collaboration/consultation with the Board.

2) Continue to develop and deepen Sunday service experiences in which the majority of attendees regularly have a meaningful and engaging experience. This will be worked on by:

- Participating in regular weekly planning sessions with UUAA's Worship Team;
- Soliciting and integrating lay suggestions/ideas/questions related to monthly service themes into our future Sunday service planning;
- Continuing to proactively solicit congregational feedback related to our Sunday services;
- Beginning to deepen congregational capacity for lay participation in, and leadership of, our Sunday services, through the offering of a 7 month-long skills building seminar in public storytelling; and,
- Supporting the worship team in living into the values that the team has articulated for our Sunday services (shared with our UUAA community in the spring of 2019).

3) Support the Board of Trustees in implementing a plan that moves UUAA towards articulating a vision for the congregation and, emerging out of that, strategic priorities. This will be worked on by:

- Participating in and supporting a Board-led work plan that helps the congregation complete its visioning process; and,
- Supporting the congregation, and its leadership, in articulating the top 2-3 strategic priorities emerging from this vision.

4) Establish the newly forming Living Our Values (LOV) Team, in supporting healthy, covenant-based relationship within the congregation, and further the work of the Shared Ministries Team (SMT), in supporting healthy communication and processes within the congregation. This will be worked on by:

- Creating, recruiting for, and sharing with the UUAA community the development of the new Living Our Values (LOV) Team;
- Helping develop and refine appropriately differentiated operational understandings for both the LOV Team and the SMT, by sharing knowledge, best practices, and guidance, as needed;
- Developing and/or revising written charges for both these teams; and,
- Establishing regular ongoing meetings with the chairs/co-chairs of these teams, in order to support the teams in their response to issues, questions, and feedback.



Board Communications

This is the work plan that the Board of Trustees adopted at its October meeting. The Board will review this work plan periodically during the year and revise it as needed.

2019-2020 Work Plan of the UAAA Board of Trustees

As stated in the bylaws and our governing policies, the work of the Board is to establish, maintain, and communicate governing policies and strategic priorities that are forward-looking, congregation-wide, and reflective of the values and mission of the congregation.

In addition, the Board is charged with ensuring the integrity of operations through ongoing monitoring. On an annual basis, the Board will develop a work plan. The following is the work plan for the 2019-2020 cycle.

1. Support the completion of Purpose-Vision 20/50 activities by Spring 2020

- Actively participate, remain apprised of the progress, and advocate for the initiative.

2. Provide leadership in fostering Beloved Community with a focus to

- Help set the tone within our congregation for healthy dialogue, grounded in our community's commitment to love
- Model and nurture healthy communication and collaboration between our congregation's governance leaders and its operational leaders
- Nurture an ongoing, mutually supportive relationship with our new senior minister

3. Honor our Shared Leadership through governance formulation and updates

- Absentee ballots: Develop and implement a process for implementing absentee ballots as approved by the congregation in June 2019
- Congregational resolutions: Develop a draft proposed process for bringing resolutions before the congregation and solicit input, with a goal of presenting for congregational vote in June 2020 any bylaw changes required by this process
- Congregational forum on Governance: Working in collaboration with the Governance Advisory Team (GAT), conduct a forum on our governance process (bylaws, governing policies)
- Board of Trustees governing policies: As appropriate, review and update to increase effectiveness of internal Board processes

4. Communicate and engage with the congregation (tasked to proposed Communications Committee)

- Board and GAT-led forums
- Regular newsletter updates
- Monthly updates in order-of-service insert
- Board of Trustees table once a month in the Social Hall
- Listening session on draft congregational resolution policy
- Educational forum on governance (see item 3 above)
- One Board of Trustees meeting this year on a Sunday

5. Address timely issues through board-led workgroups

- Explore the pros and cons of investing in the UUA Common Fund
- Develop quarterly reports on finance and attendance that provide additional analytics and interpretation
- Communicate Board activities and outreach
- Continue Personnel Working Group
- Get update on the Geisenhainer Music Fund

6. Engage in ongoing collaborative check-in/monitoring sessions with different ministries and programs

- Meet with each of the Senior Minister's direct reports: Assistant Minister for Spiritual Growth and Development, Director of Worship and Music, Assistant Minister for Operations, and Administrator. The Senior Minister and Board President may schedule other program areas for briefings, as appropriate
- Monitor various lay-led groups may also be included and incorporate written reports or face to face briefings

Questions? Email the Board of Trustees at BOT@uuaa.org.



Vision 20/50



Vision 20/50 Overview **Add Your Voice to the Vision 20/50**

This congregation belongs to all of us, and all of us should have a voice in the ongoing conversation about our future. We hope that every member will find a way to be heard.

By now, hopefully, you are aware that UUAA is in the midst of a strategic planning initiative, referred to as "Vision 20/50" (see the graphic below for process details). The initiative is designed to engage congregants in deciding how to direct our resources to make a difference in our world over the next generation.

Your opinion and ideas are important, and here's how you can participate:

Small Group Sessions (Now through December): "Ambassadors" are conducting small group discussions centered on eight questions that are intended to elicit a vision of what you want the UUAA to be and what kind of impact we want to make in the world over the next 30 years. Sign up in the Social Hall during Social Hour, or go [online](#) and pick a session that will be convenient for you!

Online Survey: If you are unable to attend a vision session in person, you can still be part of the conversation by completing an online survey. Find the link to the survey on uuaa.org/vision.

January 26 All-Congregation Work Session: Mark your calendar now for the Congregational Meeting on Sunday, January 26 at **11:30am**. The meeting will include review of the wisdom gathered and work toward action plans.

Give More Feedback: Feedback is always welcome. Go to the Vision 20/50

Table in the Social Hall during Social Hour or email vision@uuaa.org.

Volunteers are needed now for tasks to complete the Gathering Wisdom phase; please visit the Vision 20/50 Table in the Social Hall during Social Hour to offer help. Keep informed and share input and questions at vision@uuaa.org.



For Your Calendar

Migration & Memories Art Exhibit Opening * Friday, November 1

Emilio Gutiérrez Soto, a Mexican journalist of international distinction as well as an artist and an asylum seeker is showing recent landscape paintings Friday, November 1, from 7:00pm to 9:00pm. at International House (921 Church St., Ann Arbor). Gutiérrez Soto will speak about his art and his experiences at 7:30pm.

For those forced to flee their homelands, retaining memories is central to survival.

Emilio fled his country in 2008 following serious death threats resulting from his investigative reporting on local corruption. Mexico is one of the world's most dangerous countries for journalists. For the past 11 years he has been seeking legal asylum in the United States, looking for safety for his family and personal peace.

Last year Gutiérrez Soto came to the University of Michigan on a prestigious Knight-Wallace Fellowship for international journalists, and we were introduced to him through the UU Church of Las Cruces, New Mexico. Now Gutiérrez Soto is approaching his storytelling through art, capturing memories of places he has called home - Chihuahua, New Mexico, and Ann Arbor.

Join members of UUA's Immigration Action Coalition in attending this opening art exhibition and reception to show our support for Emilio's latest efforts to exercise freedom of expression and find justice for journalists, both locally and internationally.



BLUU Symposium Live Stream * Saturday, November 2



Join UUA congregants for a BLUU Symposium Livestream Watch Party on Saturday, November 2, 10:45am-12:30pm. BLUU (National) is hosting The Harper Jordan Memorial Symposium; a four-day gathering centering Black Unitarian Universalists. The livestream watch party is a way to bring the symposium to all and share the work of BLUU with the larger UU community. All are welcome to attend this one-time open worship event in the Jackson Chapel. Co-sponsored by BC@UUA and

Challenging Racism Group.



Mothers and Others * Saturdays, November 9 & 23

Mothers and Others | A Group for Caregivers of Young Children



Join our group for caregivers of young children for fellowship, support, and friendship! Mothers, fathers, grandparents, foster parents, and others are all welcome to join our bimonthly playgroups in the UUA nursery on the 2nd and 4th Saturdays of the month at 10:15am. For details, join our email list by contacting Charlene Mangi at

Charlene.Mangi@gmail.com.



Biodynamic Agriculture Presentation * Friday, November 15

Agriculture and Climate Change: Can Regenerative and Biodynamic Agriculture Save the Planet?

Join the Mindful Eating Team on Friday, November 15, 6:30pm at the Ann Arbor District Library, West Branch (2503 Jackson Ave., Ann Arbor to find out!



Farming is one of the largest producers of carbon and methane, contributing to climate change. But there are solutions.

We are hosting two experts:

- Hajnal Minger, local food activist and promoter of permaculture and sustainability, will address Regenerative Agriculture. Hajnal is a member of the UUAA congregation and was born and raised in Transylvania.
- Aquillon Hetrick will discuss Biodynamic Agriculture. Aquillon is a farmer at the Community Farm of Ann Arbor. She studied Biodynamic Agriculture in Fair Oaks, CA at the Rudolf Steiner College.

For more information, email cathymuha@sbcglobal.net.



Middle Stages of Alzheimer's * Wednesday, November 20



The UUAA Memory Loss Caregiver Support Group, in partnership with the Alzheimer's Association, is sponsoring a one-hour workshop discussing the middle stages of Alzheimers for caregivers from 3:00pm-4:30pm in Fahs Chapel. Participants will learn the symptoms and care needs associated with the middle stage of Alzheimer's. Register by calling 800-272-3900 or online at alz.org/CRF. Questions? Contact Joan Burleigh at joburleigh@aol.com, Sandy Kunkle at sandykunkle@gmail.com, or Meredith Ley at meredithl888@gmail.com.



Healing and Protecting the Great Lakes * Thursday, November 21



As the climate crisis deepens, what could we possibly do to heal and protect our earth? It has been said that it is best if we simply bloom where we are planted, and we are planted where 20% of the world's fresh water is held. Here in Michigan we find ourselves inextricably linked to this treasure on Earth and we're being called to help heal and protect. It seems inevitable that the world-wide water crisis, which is already huge, will only increase with the changing climate conditions. As we explore and enjoy each Great Lake, we must keep in mind the many ways they are threatened.

This forum is for concerned citizens who want to find out the very latest information about the future of the Great Lakes and what can be done to help heal and protect these waters. Andy Buchsbaum, a leader with the National Wildlife Federation, will be sharing what he's learned through his work with others as the co-founder and co-chair of the Healing Our Waters coalition. Through this collaborative effort, Andy helped to secure an unprecedented \$1.6 billion in federal funding for Great Lakes restoration and establish new state and federal laws to protect Great Lakes water supplies. He also won the Detroit Free Press Michigan Green Leader Award in

2014. Andy is eager to talk with concerned citizens who want to educate themselves about what is happening now and explore different ideas and action underway to help mitigate the situation.

This event will be from 7:00pm to 9:00pm in the UUAA Sanctuary and is sponsored by the UUAA Climate Crisis Action group as part of a commitment to engage congregants in learning and action that promote peace, justice, and positive environmental action locally and beyond.

Please contact Jeannine LaPrad, jlaprad@umich.edu, with ideas or questions about this event.



Interfaith Round Table Thanksgiving Service * Sunday, November 24



UUAA is proud to be hosting the annual Interfaith Round Table (IRT) Thanksgiving celebration from 7:00pm-8:30pm in the UUAA Sanctuary. The theme is "Appreciating Joy in Our Lives." A wide array of spiritually oriented people will give thanks with inspirational music, carefully considered thoughts, as well as brief reports from a wide variety of faith traditions and community-building endeavors. Light refreshments will follow the celebration. Donations will be

accepted for the IRT and non-perishable food will be given to help those in need in our community. 2019 Interfaith Calendars will also be available. Questions? Email Social Justice and Pastoral Care Coordinator Quiana Perkins at Quiana@uuaa.org.



Alpha House Host Week * Monday-Sunday, November 25-December

1



Alpha House Thanksgiving Host Week

Alpha House is a shelter on Jackson Road for families experiencing temporary homelessness in Washtenaw County.

Volunteer or make a donation for the upcoming Thanksgiving Host Week: November 25-December 1: UUAA needs 90 volunteers to provide food, serve meals, play with the kids, and make reminder phone calls to other volunteers. Up to \$400 is needed to cover supplies for our host week and goes to support the mission of Alpha House. Sign up or donate money on Sundays during Social Hour or online at <http://tinyurl.com/AH1019>.

Cooks: as of October 16 there is one vegan and one vegetarian living at Alpha House. This may change before Thanksgiving, but we have designated some side dishes as vegan option preferred, to help out these residents. Because many UUAA members are accomplished plant-based chefs, we hope you will bring your yummiest vegan dishes to host week. We always plan dishes for 24 servings unless otherwise noted. You can check out the ages of residents, their special dietary needs, and favorite foods at <http://tinyurl.com/AHResidents>.

Thanksgiving dinner at Alpha House will be at 1:00pm Thursday, November 28. You can bring your dish cold for reheating the night before or morning of

Thanksgiving. Or buy two 10-pound turkeys for the staff to cook! Residents love the legs and dark meat just as much as white meat. Thanksgiving dishes and volunteers are included in our online sign-up at <http://tinyurl.com/AH1019>. Questions? Contact Sandy Eyl at sandy.eyl@gmail.com.



News and Announcements

Challenging Racism

Join us in reading and sharing thoughts on *An Indigenous Peoples' History of the United States*. Learn what we were not taught in school about our history with indigenous peoples.

Each year the UUA chooses a book and encourages members of congregations to read and discuss it as a means to learn and build community.

Copies of *An Indigenous Peoples' History of the United States* by Roxanne Dunbar-Ortiz will be available for loan in the office. You will find the book and a sign-out sheet on the counter by the mailboxes. The Challenging Racism Group will lead a discussion in early 2020.

Questions? Contact Kathy at jdkamclean@comcast.net.



Humanist Groups



Are You a Humanist?

Do you believe that we must decide for ourselves what the meaning of our lives is? Do you believe that humans, rather than a supreme being, define morality and ethics? Do you believe that God is created in humans' image? If you answer yes to any of these questions, or if you are unsure of the answers, then consider joining this group that is searching for answers to these questions.

Humanism has a long history in our congregation, and a lively group of humanists has been meeting for about 20 years. The current group of about 20 members gathers to discuss topics relating to humanist philosophy, theology, morals, ethics, reasoning, science, and more.

There are two Humanist discussion groups. The Thursday Humanists Group and Monday Humanists Group discuss the same issues, with some of the same participants, and sometimes with the same discussion leaders. Both groups provide varied, lively discussion opportunities.

All are welcome at either or both of these meetings at UUA:

Thursdays, November 7 and 21 from 2:00pm to 4:00pm
Mondays, November 11 and 25 from 7:00pm to 8:30pm

Currently 85 people have chosen to subscribe to our mail list, receiving interesting articles and commentary, as well as notices about upcoming meetings. Contact

Hal to subscribe to our list.

For more information about the Thursday group, contact Bruce Gibb at bgibb@aol.com.

For more information about the Monday group, contact Hal Breidenbach at hal@breidenbach.net.



Living Our Values (LOV) Charge



"... this is our covenant with each other: to dwell together in peace, to search for truth in love, and to help one another..."

PURPOSE:

The purpose of the lay-staffed Living Our Values (LOV) Team is to serve as partners in building, maintaining, and repairing congregational relationships to ensure that we are living in alignment with our UUAA covenant.

GOALS:

The work of the LOV Team will reflect UUAA and UU values and the congregation's governing policies. It will also seek to strengthen the shared covenant-based fabric of our community.

The members of the LOV Team will remain fair-minded in matters related to congregational life, not serving as representatives for individual congregants, the staff, the ministers, specific program areas of the congregation, or specific subgroups of the congregation. The needs of the UUAA community, as a whole, will always be held first and foremost at the center of all that the LOV Team does.

The LOV Team is committed to supporting and nurturing healthy, right relationship, and to embodying and modeling that our community cares when harm has been caused, whether intentional or not, whether initially recognized or not.

The LOV Team honors the confidentiality of its internal reflection and deliberation processes, while committed to the transparency of information sharing and outcomes.

The LOV Team will engage in its work of supporting covenant-based relationships through three modalities:

- Supporting covenant-based relationship in the absence of harm or conflict, though such proactive, skills-building activities as workshops, seminars, and discussion circles, among other possibilities.
- Addressing potential or actual harm in the moment, serving as proactive bystanders and reminders of healthy covenant and mutual care.
- Serving as facilitators and guides who assist/support the conversation, healing, re-committal to covenant, and affirmation of love and care that is sometimes needed after harm has been caused.

The team will engage in these activities as a community of practice. Recognizing that everyone possesses different skills and expertise, LOV is a team that is committed to reflecting, learning, and acting together, over time, flexibly welcoming

in those who are committed to this work, and releasing those who need to move on, with an eye towards helping, over time, as many people as possible deepen their covenant-based skillfulness.

COLLABORATIVE ROLES:

It is anticipated that while the LOV Team will focus on matters relating to healthy relationship and the healthy embodiment of our UUAA covenant, there is often no way to discuss healthy relationship and interpersonal dynamics without also discussing the very specific programmatic or operational matters that are often the context in which relationship has gone awry. As such, while the LOV Team has primary responsibility for "right relationship" and covenant-based issues and the Shared Ministries Team (SMT) has lead on operational policies, processes, and communication, it is anticipated that both teams will work as closely together as is needed, modeling healthy, ongoing communication, collaboration, and when appropriate, joint action between the two groups.



Mindful Eating Team - Farm Project Completes 2019 Season!

Season Eight of the Food Gatherers Farm Project on the property of Farmer Bill Schmid is now complete. Once again, the efforts of many UUAA members and friends made this social justice service project a huge success. Food Gatherers is grateful for the fresh produce donations of close to 2,700 pounds, as well as \$3,500 from sales at the roadside stand. Our team appreciates the efforts of the more than 70 volunteers, many of whom made a single visit to help our cause and some who showed up 15-20 times.

Every single hour spent working on the farm helps the cause, and we thank all of the many UUAA volunteers: Cheryl Barget, Annie Barget-Darden, Amy Gleichert Bothner, Ken Clein, Cesilie & Russell Cordavilla, Colleen Crawley, Merrill Crockett, Zainab DeMartino, Kathy Edgren, Lillian Fineman, Karen Hale, Barb & Dave Hall; Jenny, Lee, & Mark Hannibal, Cecilia Hernandez-Winchell & Micah Winchell; Carli, Eric, Zach, & Charlotte Hildebrandt, Beth Hospadaruk, Danielle Howard; Christine, Yves, & Ben LePottier, Jennifer Lukela, Adam Martin, Connie McGuire, Kirsten Mogbo, Juan Montealegre, Cathy & Mike Muha, Lisa Olsen, Anna Peterson, Lauren Peterson, Sally Preston, Susan Randall, Sarah Richards, Tim Richards, John Russell, Mark Sanderson, Dale Sniegowski, Claudette & Amy Snow-Schell, Erik Stalhandske, Mark & Isaac VanKempen, Cathy Whitaker, Eileen Wright, Ricardo Wyatt; the women of Stone Circle; 7th Grade students & teachers; Coming of Age mentors & mentees; and members of our YRUU program.

Our apologies to anyone missed on this list. Thanks again, and we hope to see you all (and more of you) next year!



Multicultural Outreach (MCO)



Multicultural Outreach (MCO) is a growing branch of the UUAA community. In the past year, we have seen an increase in attendance and participation from Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC). This welcomed increase is a testament to the work of staff (past and present) and members who have addressed racism and white supremacy.

MCO was created to center the voices, needs, and spiritual growth of BIPOCs. At UUAA, this support is offered to two unique groups:

Black Congregants@ UUAA (formally BLUU) gather for education, support, and BLUU Worship Watch parties. Co-Leaders are Constance Dickinson and J.J. Johnson.

POC Gatherings are held once a month, serving as a brave and supportive space for POC to share their unique perspectives through conversation and community building. Leader for POC is Eric Camu Kramp.

All this information can also be found on the newly created [Multicultural Outreach webpage](#).

Questions? Quiana@uuaa.org.



Partner Church Transylvania



Our new Partner Church scholarship recipient, Anna-Krisztina Bucs, started university this fall. She writes:

"My name is Anna-Krisztina Bucs. I live in a small town [Kezdivasarhely] in the heart of beautiful Transylvania. I am 19 years old, and this year I am attending the University of Transylvania in Brasov. I find it fascinating how our society works and manages to evolve, and so I am planning to study sociology and become an HR manager. This takes patience and discipline, but I am willing to do the hard work. I am not a quitter. I always want to achieve my goals. Along the way there will be many challenges but I would like to embrace them...I would like to understand people more What motivates them...I would like to be the one who sees their talents and use them for a greater purpose. My motivation always is [to] live for something that is bigger than yourself...Thank you for listening to my story.

Yours faithfully,
Bucs Anna-Krisztina."



Pastoral Care



Greetings from the Pastoral Care Team! Last month we saw an increased number of requests for support - requests from many different types of people that related to a wide variety of care needs. Our "network approach" to pastoral care is effective; no calls for care went unanswered.

To meet the growing care needs of the community, we now seek volunteers who have professional "care" experience and can help with pastoral care visits (current or retired nurse, social worker, counselor, bereavement specialist). We will soon offer a special training session for such professionals that will focus on pastoral care practices specific to UUAA (e.g., confidentiality, reporting).

If you are a professional who wants to be considered for the "Care Professional Visitor Training," please email Quiana Perkins, Pastoral Care Coordinator at Quiana@uuaa.org by Friday, November 8, 2019 to learn more about the required commitment and training.



Prison Books

Prison Books Needs Your Help!

For nearly 15 years we have been collecting gently used books from area public libraries, sorting and delivering them to prisons, but we need your help to continue doing this.

If you can offer assistance in one or more of the following:

- once monthly on Saturdays or Sundays to pick up books in Saline, Ann Arbor, Ypsilanti
- once monthly on Tuesdays at 11:00am to pick up books in Chelsea
- once monthly on Thursday afternoons to deliver to Ypsilanti
- once monthly during the week to deliver children's books to the county jail
- occasional Sunday after first service to drive to and from Jackson with deliveries



For more information, contact Prison Books at prisonerbooks@uuaa.org.



Social Justice Council News



The Social Justice Council and our 22 Social Justice groups had a busy October! The Social Justice Council hosted a Social Justice Roundtable, the quarterly leadership meeting on October 5, 2019. Leaders gathered to learn best practices from Rooms, AV, Communications, and Webtech teams.

On Sunday, October 13, 2019, UUAU held its first annual Social Justice Open House. We had 20 groups in the Social Hall during Social Hours, sharing the work and dedication they have toward creating a more just world.

As we head into November, the Social Justice Council will begin planning the Leadership Roundtable for February.

We also welcome Veterans for Peace as a new group to our committed community.

Social Justice Council is still seeking additional members to support the work of this congregation. If you are interested, please contact co-chair Sally Preston at sally@pctraining.net.



Social & Spiritual Connections Sunday

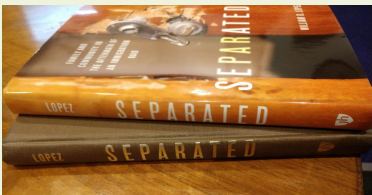


On Sunday October 20, UAAA hosted the first Social and Spiritual Connections Sunday!

Spiritual what? "Social and Spiritual Connections" is a term we have mainly used on printed materials. However, we are starting to call out and on the Social and Spiritual Connection groups (Meditation Group, Chalice Circles, Community of Writers, Wednesday Morning Readers, Friday Fun, and more) as they are the weavers of community and connection. We had over 18 groups present in the Social Hall during Social Hours. The event was a blast for those attending and those sharing! We look forward to this annual event!



Sunderland Library Features a New Social Justice Book



There are now two copies in our Adult Collection of *Separated: Family and Community in the Aftermath of an Immigration Raid* by William D. Lopez. One copy is in the Social Justice section available for checking out, and the other copy is in Reference for use at UAAA only.

"In *Separated*, William D. Lopez examines the lasting damage done by... collaborative immigration enforcement in Washtenaw County, Michigan. Exploring the chaos of enforcement through the lens of community health, Lopez discusses deportation's rippling negative effects on families, communities, and individuals. Focusing on those left behind, Lopez reveals their efforts to cope with trauma, avoid homelessness, handle worsening health, and keep their families together as they attempt to deal with a deportation machine that is militarized, traumatic, implicitly racist, and profoundly violent.

"Lopez uses [a] single home raid to show what immigration law enforcement looks like from the perspective of the people who actually experience it." *Google Books*

Questions? Contact Library@uuaa.org.



Memorial & Tribute Gifts

Thank you to the following people who donated to UAAA with Memorial and Tribute gifts in the third quarter of 2019.

In Memory of Harold Cole
Roya Furniss and Roberta Allen
Bob and Lucia Heinold

In Memory of Paul Forringer
Carolyn and Dick Barber

In Memory of James Gruber
Lars Bjorn and Susan Wineberg
Carolyn and Dick Barber

In Memory of Marion Hart

Mary Lynn Dwyer
Ed and Barbara Lynn
Phyllis Valentine
Fran Lyman
Bob and Lucia Heinold
Brandy Sinco
Carolyn and Dick Barber

In Memory of Wendy Watson
Daniel and Carol Dmitruk
Carolyn and Dick Barber



A Warm Welcome to Our Newest Members

Daniel Webster Carleton



Dan grew up in the Midwest and has degrees in English literature and rhetoric. He taught creative writing at the University of Illinois, Champaign Urbana, and he worked as a lobster fisherman in Maine. Dan has two grown children and three grandchildren. He travels extensively worldwide for his work selling gear making machines to the auto industry.



Mary Palnau



Mary has been searching for a spiritual community for a long time. She was raised Catholic. In her 30s she joined an Episcopal church; later in life she explored a Unity and a Methodist church. Finally, she has found in UUAA the spiritual community she was searching for. Mary is retired from the University of Michigan after 43 years in a variety of administrative roles. She is a volunteer with Cancer Support Community, NAMI of Washtenaw County, and Wild Swan Theatre. Several times a year, Mary travels to Virginia to reconnect with her son, daughter, and grandchildren, who live in Norfolk. She lives in Ypsilanti with her husband Bob. She enjoys walking and putzing around in her flower gardens.



Toni Reese

Toni is looking forward to being a member of the UUAA congregation. She has been a long-time member of the Ann Arbor Y and has taught yoga there for many years, as well as presently. Reading, cooking, and gardening are among her interests.



Michele Zmich



Michele is a mother, teacher, and lifelong learner who resides in Canton. She is also an amateur nature photographer, voracious reader, and is passionate about the natural world. She has been attending UUAA for about a year and loves the community she has found here. She is very happy to become an official member of such a vital and active congregation. Areas of special interest to her are social justice and education.



Becoming a Member



Becoming a Member

Stepping Stones

- ✚ Experience being part of the congregation by attending Sunday services and seeking out groups of interest.
- ✚ Learn about UU faith and history by attending an Introduction to Our Faith Class. (For information about registering for an upcoming Introduction to Our Faith class, 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 Welcome Ministries Coordinator 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.

***December Newsletter* Deadline: Tuesday, November 19 at 9:00am**

Please note the earlier deadline due to Thanksgiving break. 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.



Change of Contact Information?

If you have had a change in name, residence, email address, or phone number over the past year and would like to update your information with UUAA, [use this link](#) or email Welcome Ministries Coordinator Hannah Hotchkiss at hannah@uuaa.org.



Two-Service Season Hours * Sunday, September 8 - Sunday, May 24

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

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



First Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Ann Arbor | office@uuaa.org | 734-665-6158 | www.uuaa.org

See what's happening on our social sites:

