



First Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Ann Arbor

A liberal religious voice in Ann Arbor since 1865

UUAA February 2020 Newsletter

February 2020 Newsletter - Vol. 16, Issue 2

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



February | Resilience

February 2 | 9:30am & 11:30am Everyday Resilience

Are the stories we're telling ourselves helpful? Do we make as much space for self-compassion as self-criticism?

Dealing with the stuff which wears at health and hope; discerning the practices which build us back to life.

February 9 | 9:30am & 11:30am After Shock: Living Loss, Living Found

After tragedy and loss comes to life, after their pains break our hearts, after their memories distance us trust and balance, after we survive, our next decisions decide how we are rebuilt. What does it mean to re-member a broken heart? Can we re-pair ourselves with trust and balance from a distance so far?

February 16 | 9:30am & 11:30am
...Everything You Got...¹

Resiliency in love.

February 23 | 9:30am & 11:30am
When you do it again and they say no...²

How Resilience and Resistance relate and cross-fertilize, in the wider world, across the generations.

- ¹ Gary Portnoy, *Where everybody knows your name*
² Marge Piercy, *The Low Road*



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.



Sunday Services "Snapshot" Survey Results

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

On December 15, 2019, a "snapshot" survey was conducted during both of 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 and deep, with 276 adults responding to the snapshot survey. As a reference point, UUAA currently has 643 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.

Out of 276 open-ended responses received on 12/15/2019,

- In excess of 98% of the survey respondents (98.55%) expressed appreciation of and praise for some aspect of our Sunday services, with the

for co-creating a beautiful and affirming picture of who we are together, as a community.

We look forward to continuing to examine and reflect on this data closely, and incorporating ongoing refinements that balance the needs of our broad and diverse community.

With much appreciation and gratitude, Rev. Manish



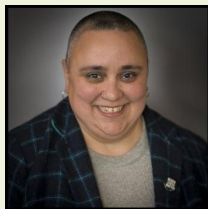
Upon Reflection

Many of you will have heard the news by now: my time at UAAA will be drawing to a close at the end of June. As I mentioned in my sermon on January 12 (which you can listen to [here](#)), my job has changed so much since the time I was first hired that it has moved beyond my expertise and my calling. This passage summed things up:

I love this community. If there were a way for me to stay with integrity, I would. But the congregation needs something that I can't offer, and I need something that this position can't offer. It's just a mismatch. No drama, no subtext. Just a mismatch.

There will be time to say our goodbyes, but for now, we still have months of ministry left together! UAAA will start to live into a beautiful vision woven out of your hopes and dreams. The BIG sing comes back around in March. As I write this, the vote on theresa rohck's ordination hasn't happened yet, but that would be another exciting moment in the life of the congregation.

And we'll keep gathering Sunday after Sunday, offering each other support, and sharing in each other's joy. In other words, we'll keep making covenant and community real together, just as people in this congregation have done since 1865.



Peace,
Rev. Lindasusan
Assistant Minister for Operations



Leadership Development Team (LDT)

Take the Lead

Under our bylaws, the congregation's Leadership Development Team (LDT) is tasked with "identifying, cultivating, and developing leaders for the Congregation" as well as developing a slate of nominees for the spring Annual Meeting.

It may be cold outside, but the spring meeting will soon "spring" upon us. In order to continue to thrive, our congregation needs energetic lay leadership for the challenges ahead.

If you are interested in learning about service on the UAAA Board of Trustees or the LDT, there are a few ways that you can connect with the LDT. One way is via email at ldt@uuaa.org. Another is to stop by our table in the Social Hall between services on February 2. Finally, if you either are interested in serving, or know of someone else in the congregation that you believe would be interested, you can fill out a form on the website at <https://uuaa.org/index.php/about-us/lay-leadership/ldt>.

Vision 20/50 Takes a Village ... In Gratitude To Our Congregation

At the January 26 20/50 Vision Meeting for the whole congregation, we affirmed the "Theory of Change" as it was constructed from input that included:

- 31 Vision sessions... which generated
- 3000+ Post-it notes... written by
- 300+ in-person and online participants, including adults, children & youth, staff members, and representatives from 12 outside community partner organizations

Many thanks to all for participating in our Vision 20/50 process thus far. Whether attending visioning sessions in person or via the internet, helping with data collection and analysis, helping with refreshments, or adding your presence and voice to our January 26 affirmation - all input and participation has been precious and appreciated as such.

What we've learned and affirmed from each other will now guide us as we take the next steps in the process to shape the UUAA future accordingly.

Continue to look for updates on progress and participation as we move forward. Special thanks to the congregants listed below for their continued leadership in the process:

Vision Consultant/UUA Co-Moderators: Elandria Williams, Rev. Dr. Lisa Presley, Rev. Carlton Smith

Vision 20/50 Co-Chairs: Rick Witten, Laura Bollettino

Leadership Team: Janet Callaway, Edie Croake, Constance Dickinson, Mark Doman, Dixie Hibner, Beth Hospadaruk, Laura Johnstone, Ed Lynn, Lissa Oliver, Sandy Simon

Ambassador Team: Beth Hospadaruk, Janet Callaway, Jeannine LaPrad, Lissa Oliver.

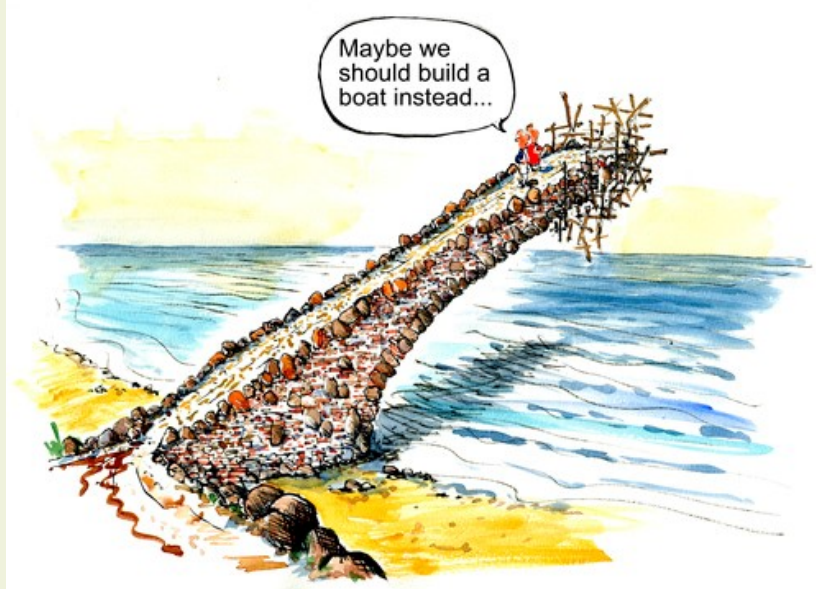
Ambassadors: Bil Arons, Lyn Arons, Cathie Breidenbach, Hal Breidenbach, Barb Cherem, Bobbi Coluni, Colleen Crawley, Cynthia Dunitz, Jennifer Evans, Chris Farnum, Kathy Friedrichs, Karen Hale, Glenn Harris, Dixie Hibner, Kate Hutchens, Maryn Lewallen, Kathy McLean, Carolyn Madden, Susan Randall, Tom Reischl, Spencer Thomas

Communication Team: Lissa Oliver, Laura Johnstone, Sandy Simon, Susie Thompson

Data Tracking Team: Rick Witten

Data Analysis Team: Rick Witten, Edie Croake, Constance Dickinson, Dixie Hibner, Beth Hospadaruk, Laura Johnstone, Lissa Oliver, Sandy Simon, Vanessa Campbell, Bobbi Coluni, Sam Lewis, Elandria Williams, Lisa Presley, Carlton Smith

January 26 Logistics Coordinators: Vanessa Campbell, Erin Krajcik



For Your Calendar

Khasi Hills Event * Sunday, February 2

New School Year in the Khasi Hills

In India the school year begins in February. You are invited to join us in the Fahs Chapel on February 2, 2020, at 1:00pm to kick off the new school year and learn about life in the Khasi Hills. We will partake of tasty food, watch a short movie featuring students from the Unitarian Lower Primary school at Mawkisyiem, and have time for questions and answers. Plus you will have the opportunity to enroll in the Sponsor-a-Student Program for the 2020 school year. Questions? Contact Allen Duncan or Cathy Doherty at KhasiHills@uuaa.org.



Alpha House Host Week * Monday-Sunday, February 3-9

The next UUA Alpha House host week will be February 3 through



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

UUAA needs 100 volunteers to provide food, serve meals, provide play activities for children, and be day hosts. If you can't volunteer, donate! Up to \$400 is needed to cover food and supplies and to support the mission of Alpha House. Sign up online at <http://tinyurl.com/AHFeb20> or sign up or donate on Sundays during Social Hour. New to UUAA or Alpha House? Contact alphahouse@uuaa.org.

Children: Adults volunteering for play activities may bring one or two children along. Alpha House kids enjoy meeting other children during Activity Time. If you plan on bringing a larger group of children, please let us know.

Background Checks: When you sign up, there will be a question asking for any adult's full legal name and/or former name, such as a birth name or maiden name. This applies to every adult who interacts with residents (food servers and children's play time volunteers). When arriving at Alpha House, everyone (except cooks dropping off food) should check in at the front desk where the staff will confirm you have had a background check. If this wasn't done, the staff can perform it on the spot.

FYI: Sometimes Alpha House parents work late, so you might not see as many people at dinnertime (or have as many kids at weeknight activity time). The food we provide is needed and often reheated by residents when they return from work in the evening.

Cooks/Dinner: You can find the number of adults and kids, any food allergies, and a list of favorite meals here: <https://tinyurl.com/AHResidents>.



Memory Loss Caregiver Support Group * Wednesday, February 5



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 this 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.



Humanist Group * Mondays &/or Thursdays, February 6, 10, 20, & 24

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. A lively group of humanists has been meeting here 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 UUAA:

Thursdays, February 10 and 24 from 2:00pm to 4:00pm
Mondays, February 6 and 20 from 7:00pm to 8:30pm

Currently 90 people have chosen to subscribe to our email 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 blgibb@aol.com.

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



Friday Fun Night * Friday, February 7



UUAA FRIDAY FUN NIGHT

Friday, February 7

6:00pm - 9:00pm

\$5 suggested donation or \$20 per family

Journeys of Love

Featuring...

- * Adult Programming: *The Hundred Foot Journey*, (6:30 start time) discussion with Rev. Manish to follow,
- * Kids Movie: *Homeward Bound* (85 min)
- * Game room with demo: Ticket to Ride - First Journeys (ages 6+)
- * Chili, cornbread, salad, fruit salad
- * Craft: Heart- and Card-Making
- * Infant and toddler childcare available



Friday Fun Night regularly serves both vegetarian and non-vegetarian options. If you need other dietary accommodations, please email us at fridayfunnight@uuaa.org a week in advance. We also invite everyone to bring their own table setting, if able.



Film & Discussion | "The Hundred Foot Journey" * Friday, February 7



Join Rev. Manish at this month's Friday Fun Night, as he leads us in a screening of Director Lasse Halstrom's critically acclaimed film "The Hundred Foot Journey" (2014, rated PG). Set in France, this movie explores the theme of antagonism towards immigrants as well as the possibility of cross-cultural bridge building, with food/cuisine as one of this story's defining elements. **Due to this movie's**

length, it will commence promptly at 6:30pm, followed by a brief opportunity for conversation/dialogue. Please join us at 6:00pm in the Social Hall for a shared

meal, prior to the film.



Mothers and Others * Saturdays, February 8 & 22

Mothers and Others | A Group for Caregivers of Young Children



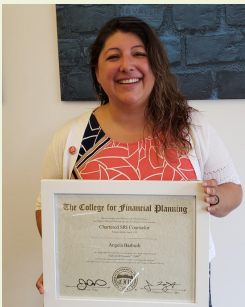
Join our group of caregivers of young children for fellowship, support, and friendship! Mothers, fathers, grandparents, foster parents, and others are all welcome to join! We typically meet for playgroups in the UUA nursery on the 2nd and 4th Saturdays of the month at 10:15am. For details, join our email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

at Charlene.Mangi@gmail.com.



Socially Responsible Investing * Sunday, February 9

Sponsored by the Social Justice Council



Are you investing in faceless corporations that are possibly doing things with your money that don't align with your values? Let 2020 be the year you take action to change that!

Join us at 1:15pm in the Fahs Chapel for a presentation by Angela Barbash, Chartered SRI Counselor. Angela will cover trends in socially responsible investing (SRI), breaking down some of the basic terminology, and sharing website and video resource links.

Questions? Contact Cathy Muha at cathymuha@sbcglobal.net or Carolyn Madden at cgmadden@gmail.com.



Learn about General Assembly (GA) * Sunday, February 9

The Denominational Connections Team is offering a taste of what rich experiences are offered at the annual General Assembly (GA) -- the worldwide gathering of Unitarian Universalists.

Join us from 1:00pm-3:00pm in the Jackson Chapel to view last year's GA Sunday worship service. (Rev. Lindasusan plays a prominent role!) Discussion will follow with information about how to become a voting delegate to represent our congregation and time to ask questions.

Where is GA this year? Providence, RI
When is GA? June 24-28

Join us to find out the answers to these questions:

- What does it mean to be a delegate?
- How can I become a delegate (either present at GA or remotely online)?
- What experiences have others had at GA?

We hope you will join us!

Kathy McLean and Laura Bollettino, Co-chairs, Denominational Connections Team



Introduction to Our Faith * Saturday, February 15



Join us on Saturday, February 15 from 10:00am-2:30pm for an introduction to Unitarian Universalism for newcomers as well as long-time congregants. This class is a prerequisite for congregants ready to sign the membership book. Learn about UU history, how to get involved, finding your calling, and the responsibilities of membership. [Register online](#) or fill out a form found on the Involvement Table or in the Newcomer Welcome Room during Social Hour. Registration deadline is Sunday, February 9. If you are in need of childcare for this event, we ask that you register by Monday, February 3. Questions? Email hannah@uuaa.org.



Trans Inclusion in Congregations Workshop * Starting February 15

**Trans Inclusion in Congregations 3-Session Workshop
February, 15, 29, & March 28, 10:00am-1:30pm**



Welcome Ministries and Interweave invite you to a three-session workshop designed by the [Transforming Hearts Collective](#). This workshop features online presentations followed by discussion, focusing on gender roles and the experiences of transgender people. Please plan to attend all three of the sessions as they build off of each other. The number of participants will be capped at 22, so sign up early.

If you are interested in digging deep and expanding welcoming practices in UU congregations, [register here](#) or email hannah@uuaa.org.



Join a New Womyn's Circle - Meet-Up * Saturday, February 15

All UUA Womyn interested in joining/forming a new on-going Womyn's Circle are invited to a Meet and Greet at from 11:00am to 1:00pm at UUA.

A womyn's circle is a safe and sacred space for womyn to come together, use their voices, be heard, and be seen.

Womyn throughout history have gathered in circles to empower each other and share wisdom. Circles have shared leadership and encourage and welcome diverse points of view.

A circle provides an opportunity to connect with other UUAA womyn by:

- Speaking from our heart and our own experience
- Listening with respect and compassion
- Holding the stories that are shared with compassion and confidentiality
- Being together in discovery and exploration through conversation

Questions? Pat Kuessner pkuessner07@comcast.net .



Restorative Justice & Jackson Social Welfare * Sunday, February 16

Restorative Justice of UUAA is committed to advocating for alternatives to incarceration and educating the community on programs that will change the way we see justice and those impacted by the criminal justice system.

The Jackson Social Welfare Fund awards substantial grants each year to nonprofits whose mission is aligned with the principles of the First Amendment and in conflict resolution by peaceful means. One of the recipients for this award has been the American Friends Service Committee, Michigan Criminal Justice program.

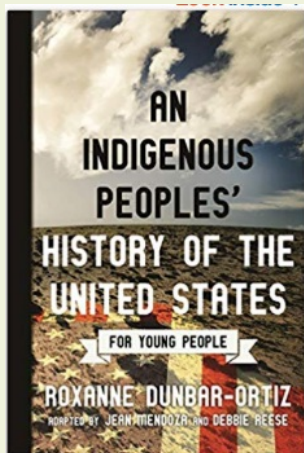
Join us on Sunday, February 16 at 1:00pm in Fahs Chapel, to learn about the Good Neighbor Project, one of the significant programs of the American Friends Service Committee in Michigan.

The program pairs up community participants with those incarcerated serving life or long indeterminate sentences in a co-mentoring relationship. Demetrius Titus, Program Associate, and Natalie Holbrook, Executive Director, from the American Friends Service Committee, Michigan Criminal Justice Program will present and offer an opportunity to learn "how we can shift attitudes and discourse surrounding punishment in Michigan."

Questions? Email Carolyn Madden at cgmadden@gmail.com.



An Indigenous Peoples' History of the United States * Sunday, March 1



Challenging Racism Group is offering an opportunity to discuss the book *An Indigenous Peoples' History of the United States* by Roxanne Dunbar-Ortiz. There are copies in the UUAA office to borrow.

This important book is being read across the country by members of many congregations. Join us from 1:00pm to 3:00pm in the Jackson Chapel as we explore the colonization of Indigenous lands, expansion of the US at the expense of Indigenous people, Indigenous resistance to colonization, and current work to assert sovereignty.

What are responsive actions our Unitarian Universalist faith requires of us?

This lays a foundation for work that will be undertaken at General Assembly (the



Restorative Justice | Osher Lifelong Learning Institute * Starting March 4

Please join Carolyn Madden and Kathie Gourlay for a three-week course:

How Criminal Justice Authorities Foster Mass Incarceration and How They Can End It

March 4, 11 and 18 from 10:00am to noon at UUAA, room TBA
Fee: \$20

During these three weeks, we will examine the role of criminal justice authorities such as prosecutors, judges, and the courts. Please register with OLLI at www.oli-umich.org, or join us on the first day of classes.

Questions? Contact Carolyn Madden at cgmadden@gmail.com.



Women's Retreat Workshop Proposal Deadline * Saturday, March 7

The UUAA Womyn's Retreat is a collaborative effort of wonderful volunteers. The committee is now calling for the next wave of volunteers - potential workshop presenters - to submit proposals for 90-minute workshops that fit within the theme "Self Compassion: Discovering Joy." This year's Womyn's Retreat will be held October 2-4, 2020. All proposals will be reviewed by the full committee. Submitting a proposal does not guarantee that your session will be selected. Send your proposal(s) of approximately 300 words, by March 7, to Retreat Co-Chair Michele Zmich at zmich@umich.edu.



News and Announcements

2020 Annual Auction



Bonjour, mes amis!

The congregation's annual auction is not far off -- on March 21, 2020 from 4:00pm-7:00pm right here at UUAA. The theme this year is "An Evening in Paris". Ooh là là! Soon, starting on February 16, we'll be selling tickets, taking donations, and welcoming volunteers in the Social Hall.

So, what can you expect on the 21st? There will be music, food from the Moveable Feast, and many items for silent bidding, the live auction, and cash and carry.

We are just starting to collect donations, but expect there to be many interesting and fun themed dinners, cottages to

stay in and other enticing items. The live auction will once again be emceed by our own Beth and Bob Hospadaruk.

The auction committee will be meeting periodically, and all are welcome to stop by. Times and dates will be in the bulletin.

If you'd like more information, check out uuaa.org/auction or email us at auction@uuaa.org.

Merci beaucoup!



Accessibility and Inclusion Ministry (AIM) | Stepping up for Kids

AIM is looking for special volunteers to support kids with disabilities during SGD classes. Some kids have difficulty participating in classroom activities because of their unique challenges. They benefit from having an ally present to assist or provide an alternate activity.

If you have professional or family experience with kids who have educational disabilities, please consider signing up for occasional Sunday SGD sessions. Sign up by emailing sgd@uuaa.org. SGD staff will contact you to arrange your participation in SGD and provide information on how to support kids. Some wonderful kids will be grateful for your support. Questions? Barbara Hall, barbaraoliverhall@gmail.com.



Habitat for Humanity's 2020 *Women Build*



UUA is assembling a team to contribute (wo)man power for Habitat's annual Women Build. This project is by women for women. Each year a house is renovated for a woman-led local family in need and lifted up by the work of local women. Please stop by the Habitat for Humanity table in the social hall for more details. No construction experience is necessary! Email for details: habitat@uuaa.org.



Multicultural Outreach



On Sunday, December 15, 2019, Multicultural Outreach hosted a Winter Potluck. This event was open to family members who may not identify as Black, Indigenous, or a Person of Color (BIPOC). Joseph Lopez offered his reflection on his

experience.

"My family was interested in joining the People of Color Winter Potluck as a chance to gather with other congregants and soak in holiday cheer. We felt it was an opportunity for the kids to play and to enjoy a collection of potluck dishes. We attended the comradery and good food, and we were not disappointed.

All the kids were free to run and explore the space; the food was a mix of southern and other regional favorites. It was not long before music was playing while kids decorated cookies and cupcakes.

After taking a group picture, time passed quickly with conversations and new friend energy. Overall, the potluck was a chance to slow down and enjoy others during the hectic holiday season, the food and conversation will be remembered for some time. It is our hope that this event is the start of a tradition that will continue on at the First Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Ann Arbor."

Joseph Lopez is a Latino/Tejano living in Dexter, MI working in Data & Analytics Governance. He and his wife, Kat, have three kids, Preston, Orson, and Daphne.

Thank you, Joseph, for attending and bringing your amazing family! Based on the success of the event, Multicultural Outreach will host an OPEN TO ALL Potluck at the end of the program year and YES! The Winter Potluck will be an annual event. If you identify as a BIPOC and want to be informed when events or gatherings are happening, please email Quiana@uuaa.org.



Caring Community and Pastoral Care



The primary role of the Pastoral Care Team is to assist the congregation to meet the care requests made by other congregants. In this way, we become ministers to one another in times of need and joy. The Pastoral Care Team has been working hard to create best practice guides to help ensure that congregants feel informed and empowered when they respond to care requests. One of our highest priorities is confidentiality and the protection of privacy.

You may wonder what happens when you reach out to pastoral care for support, how does that information get shared or in some cases NOT shared. First, we only want to receive information that has been consented to share. We honor that much of what is shared is meant to be held privately and hence is treated as such. We will always ask, "Do they know this is being shared?" Next, assuming consent is in place, the team will follow up. More than likely, this will include direct contact with the person in need of support, keeping the ministers informed, and asking other staff for their knowledge and expertise. Lastly, any care plan that is generated is done with the requester; the primary person determines how and what we share. YOU are in control of your information. This makes pastoral care equal parts private and communal.

This is the power of care network that can shift and move to meet the unique needs of a large population. Should you need care of any kind, please reach out to the Pastoral Care Team by phone at 734-665-6158 or email pastoralcare@uuaa.org.

Partner Church Transylvania

Partner Church Travel

Do you want to travel to see our partners in Transylvania (Romania)? Would you like to help plan a visit from them? The Partner Church group is starting to look at travel plans and needs your input.

In the past years their minister, Rev. Istvan, has visited us in the late fall every three years, and a small group has traveled there the following spring or summer. But the Partner Church association support we've received for previous trips has changed...and so can we.

We know that there are many travel constraints on both sides of the world. And we recognize that our previous "one trip fits all" may not be the answer anymore. We know that there are many reasons to travel...religious, historical, societal, political, musical, culinary, social. We know that there are time constraints of work and school. We know that there are financial constraints. But we don't know what your particular blend of reasons and constraints might be.

We welcome your input and want to hear from you about your interests. You can email us at partnerchurch@uuua.org, stop by our Social Hall table on February 16 to fill out a survey, or drop a note in our UUAA mailbox. Please get in touch!

Phyllis Valentine and Lee Boeke Burke



QUUest Bookstore February & March

Founded in 1999, QUUest has been our congregation's source for new fiction and non-fiction supporting our UU values. The QUUest table displays also serve as a gathering spot in the boisterous Social Hour.

QUUest Bookstore is on the verge of going out of business.

Sales have declined dramatically in spite of our excellent, constantly praised selection. We attribute this primarily to our readers shift to e-books, borrowing congregation reads from the Sunderland Library and office, and an aging congregation more interested in fewer possessions rather than more.

We are in serious and immediate need of volunteers, including leadership. Most of the current staff has been working at this mission for over 10 years. Many are over 80 years old. To remain open, **we need new volunteers** soon. Volunteering is not

difficult. Procedures are defined. Our practice is to pair booksellers to help each other and provide companionship.

In the meantime, we are trying something new at the outset of 2020. We will be open after both services the first Sunday of the month through March, but closed the other Sundays. We will also be administering a survey to understand how much this service means to our members.

The February QUUest meeting is Monday, February 3, 1:30-3:00 at UAAA. Join us if you have questions or suggestions. Watch for updates in the February and March newsletters. To ask questions or volunteer contact Lucia Heinold.

heinoldcia@aol.com.



Solar at UAAA



In the final quarter of 2019, 30 new solar panels were added to the Social Hall roof, bringing total roof-mounted solar to 102 panels (25.05 kW).

These additional panels were made possible by 15 donations in 2019 (with anticipation of another 15 in 2020). Each is from a congregant who resolved to support solarizing UAAA above and beyond what was provided as

annual stewardship.

The 2019-2020 panels have the same dimensions as the 72 located to the left of the new panels, i.e., three-groups (six-rows) first installed in late 2010, then added to in 2015.

Leading up to Earth Day 2020 (when all new inscribed tiles will also be in place in the Energy Plaza), the invitation to donate a panel remains open to all.

Estimates are planned for Earth Day to determine how many more panels it will require to offset 100% of annual energy use at UAAA.

What's your guess? We have wind, solar, and energy efficiency measures working for us - and work still to do.

For a \$500 donation, a panel is added, and your engraved tile is added to the Energy Plaza.

If you are interested in contributing, contact Ed Lynn at ed@uuaa.org or Dave Friedrichs at dave@homelandsolar.com.



Memorial & Tribute Gifts

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

In Memory of Mary Schroer

Mike Schroer

In Memory of Don Haefner

Cynthia Stewart



Our Newest Members

Maryn Lewallen & Luke Willson



Maryn

I am excited to join this congregation after attending since 2015. I love this community, our music program, and our commitment to live into our covenant with each other.

I grew up in Denver, CO, and lived all over the place before putting down roots in Michigan. I live in Ypsilanti with my partner, Luke Wilson, and our snuggly dog. A public health researcher by day, I enjoy reading fiction, riding my bicycle, and organizing for immigration justice.

Luke

I've been coming to UUAA for a number of years, and I am happy to become a full-fledged member! Growing up overseas and volunteering with the Peace Corps helped instill a respect for many different religious expressions in me. Here, the widening community has helped me continue to learn about and value different forms of spiritual and personal expression.

I love playing ukulele, biking, reading science fiction, and watching nature documentaries. I am an elementary teacher. I hope you'll say hi to me if you see me around.



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@uuuaa.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@uuuaa.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@uuuaa.org.

February Newsletter Deadline **Tuesday, January 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.



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

In observance of Presidents' Day, UUAA will be closed Monday, February 17.



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

See what's happening on our social sites:

