



First Unitarian Universalist CONGREGATION OF ANN ARBOR

UUAA August 2020 Newsletter

August 2020 Newsletter - Vol 16, Issue 8



To view the entire *Monthly Newsletter*, scroll down to the bottom and click on "view entire message."

Weaving Worship



Sunday Worship Sundays, 11:30am

Join us virtually on Sundays for inspirational music, readings, and reflections. Link for Sunday Services: <http://uuaa.org/Service>

To view or listen to past Sunday Services, [click here](#).



If you would like to contribute to the Weekly Offering, [click here](#).

For Your Calendar

Pastoral Calls * Mondays, August 3, 10, 17, 24, & 31



Pastoral Care Call Mondays, 11:00am

Pastoral Care Call is hosted once a week: This space can be used for community, support, and connection.

Monday link: <https://zoom.us/j/202591201>

Questions? Email Quiana Perkins at Quiana@uuaa.org.

Caregiver Support Group * Wednesdays, August 5 & 19



Memory Loss Caregiver Support Group

The Memory Loss Caregiver Support Group, sponsored by the UUA Pastoral Care Team in partnership with the Alzheimer's Association, meets regularly the first and third Wednesday of each month from 3:00pm-4:30pm. If you are caring for a loved one and looking for support as you navigate the world of Alzheimer's or dementia, please email Meredith at meredith1888@gmail.com to get the Zoom link.

Weekly Centering * Wednesdays, August 5 & 12

CENTERING WITH KARI



*weekly spiritual practice
time to help you get centered*

Wednesdays at noon,
July 15 - August 12

facebook.com/uuaa.org
instagram.com/uu_annarbor



For more information contact kari@uuaa.org

Wednesday Meditation * August 5, 12, 19, 26

Wednesday Meditation



Wednesdays, 4:00pm-5:00pm

All are welcome to practice a form of Buddhist meditation with fellow congregants.

Use this link: www.uuaa.org/meditation

Are you interested in learning more about meditation?

- Watch Introduction to Meditation produced by Rev. Manish on our UUAA YouTube Channel. [Use this link.](#) (Posted 4/9)

Questions? Contact Charley Burleigh at chburleigh@aol.com.

Newcomer Chalice Circle * Saturday, August 15



Newcomer Chalice Circle

Saturday, August 15, 1:00pm-3:00pm

If you are new to UUAA in the past year or find yourself with the time you always wanted to explore UU, join us in delving more deeply into the seven UU Principles. Experience a small-group, spiritual discussion with fellow inquisitive minds and hearts in this one-time Newcomer Chalice Circle.

Sign up using [this link](#) by Monday, August 10, or email Hannah Hotchkiss at hannah@uuaa.org. You will receive a Zoom link once you have registered.

This group is limited to 6 participants. Hannah will contact you if you are put on the wait list.

Multicultural Outreach BIPOC Restart * September



This is a reminder that Multicultural Outreach BIPOC Gatherings are on summer break for the month of August.

Anticipate a September business meeting to set the agenda for the 2020/2021 congregational year. Please reach out via email or phone should you need any support during this short break.

Questions? Email Quiana@uuaa.org.

News and Announcements



Room Reservations at UUA for 2020-2021 Accepting Reservations Now

With the uncertainty brought on by Covid-19, we ask UUA groups to plan with Zoom in mind for the fall.

We encourage all recognized groups to submit their [Zoom room reservations](#) now. When the building reopens, we can easily convert your Zoom room to an actual room. One bonus while we are meeting virtually, Zoom rooms are available all Friday and Saturday evenings.

Questions? Email Debita Graham at room@uuaa.org.



Alpha House News

A great big "Thank You" to the many people who donated meals, money, and/or time to our June host week at Alpha House, a shelter for families experiencing homeless.

Thanks to:

Delphine Benard, Ilene Beninson, Cathie Breidenbach, Ann Brennan, Marci Cameron, Constance Dickinson, Michelle Diepenhorst, Dee Dishon, Katherine Edgren, Barron Evans, Sandy Eyl, Lucy Graff, Gwen & Tom Guthrie, Beth Hospadaruk, Hannah Hotchkiss, Kathy Huffnagle, Arika Lycan, Vilma Mesa, Cathy & Mike Muha, Carolyn Norton, Sally Preston, Betsy Price, Tansey Rosset, Karl Sikkenga, Sandy Simon, Tricia Smith, Elinore Sommerfeld, Julie Tanguay, Phyllis Tera, Jane Theriault, Camille Ward, Cathy Whitaker

Without your help, Alpha House would not be able to do all it does for our neighbors experiencing homelessness in Washtenaw County.

Our service there looks a little different during Covid-19 as there have been fewer residents but all were healthy. The food and supplies we bring are both used in the shelter and also provided to residents that have transitioned out of the shelter to permanent housing. As we all know, transitions can be difficult and support during the first year after moving out helps assure successful independence for these families.

Find out more about supporting IHN at Alpha House financially [here](#), and find a wishlist of new/unused things the shelter needs [here](#).

New volunteers, join our mailing list! Be first to receive the sign-up online direct to your inbox. Only four to eight emails are sent per year.

Join the committee! We need different types of UU committee members to shop for groceries, promote the host week on social media, or talk about the volunteer opportunities during Virtual Social Hour.

Contact AlphaHouse@uuaa.org to join the mailing list or the committee.



UUCivs: Vote Your Values

Imagine a world where all eligible voters can vote easily and safely. Unfortunately, that's not the current environment -- especially for people in marginalized communities. COVID has created even more barriers.

UUCivs (UUAA's Civic Engagement Team) is working to remove barriers to voting -- both within our congregation and through coalitions of advocacy groups across Washtenaw County.

What Are We Working On?

1. Ensuring that Formerly Incarcerated Individuals Have a Voice in Our Elections

UUCivs has just been awarded a \$500 grant from UUA's "Fund for UU Responsibility" to help the formerly incarcerated get registered to vote. We will distribute 300 voting kits, which provides everything needed to register to vote and vote absentee -- even postage and a pen!

Get Involved: Help us remove voting barriers for other marginalized communities like the housing insecure, and support efforts within our own community (particularly outreach to elders and first-time voters). [Use this link](#) and select "UUCivs" from UUAA's donation list. Our goal is to raise \$1000 for the next 500 voting kits. We can do it with your help!

2. Voting Clinics and Helpline

Many in our own community (including friends and relatives) need a helping hand when registering to vote or applying for an absentee ballot. We're planning Zoom online clinics for August and September, and we're scheduling personal phone consultations now to help potential voters get registered and ready to vote -- well before the November 3rd election.

Get Involved: If you are interested in participating in a clinic or having a 1:1 phone consultation, email VotingHelpline@gmail.com.

How Can We Stay Connected?

Watch for the **UUCivs Action Items** and voting information in UUAA's **Weekly E-News** -- there's important work to do every week!

Questions? Email UUCivs@uuaa.org.

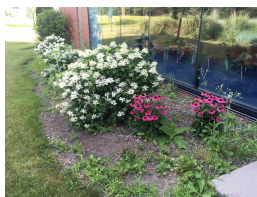


Outdoor Use Policy July/ August, 2020

The UUAA staff is happy to announce that UUAA is officially open for business again in a very limited way -- outdoors in designated areas of UUAA property Saturdays and Sundays only from 8:00am to 10:00pm.

Recognized congregational groups and UUAA members may request to reserve outdoor space by first [reading the full outdoor space use policy](#) and then filling out the [Outdoor Space Request Form](#). We want to keep everyone in our community safe, so please make sure that everyone in your group wears a mask and adheres to the policies carefully created by our Covid19 advisory team.

Enjoy the outdoor space, and please note that the building and the playground remain closed, so take into account that bathrooms are not available and there is no shelter for inclement weather. [Read the full list of requirements in the policy document.](#)



Our Land Needs You!

The congregation took a break from the land, but unfortunately the weeds did not! Now that our land is open again, we would love your help - even if it's just a couple of hours. If you're willing to help with weeding flower beds, trimming and pruning trails, repairing trail markers and sign posts, or any other gardening tasks, please contact our Building Manager, Don Hackney, at don@uuaa.org.

UUAA Habitat for Humanity New Plan, New Houses, New Dates!

Habitat has regrouped to figure out how best to catch up on the homes that are behind schedule and how to



integrate into that measures to keep volunteers as safe as possible. As Covid 19 guidelines change, these details may change.

Crew sizes have changed. There will be fewer workers on site to help assure social distancing.

In August and September, we will have two houses to work on:

- The Good News House: 2754 Appleridge St., Ypsilanti
- The Thrivent House: 1622 Wiard Rd., Ypsilanti

The revised schedule for UAAA is:

- Saturday, August 15 (4 volunteers)
- Saturday, August 29 (4 volunteers)
- Saturday, September 19 (10 volunteers)

Before signing up to volunteer...

[PLEASE READ THESE COVID SAFETY GUIDELINES](#)

Habitat for Humanity of Huron Valley wants to make sure that all volunteers are in a safe environment.

[As in previous years, you can SIGN UP USING SIGNUP GENIUS](#)

More details and updated information is available on <http://uuaa.org/h4h>.

As part of the safety guidelines we will not be providing lunches to volunteers this year. Volunteers need to bring their own work gloves, mask (you must wear a mask on site), lunch and water. You are welcome to bring your own tools if you would like. If you need help getting a mask or gloves, email habitat@uuaa.org.

Thanks to all of you who have donated, and a very generous donation from the estate of Guala Lauzzana, we have met our pledge to Habitat Good News Group this year. If you want to donate in advance for next year, or for a special project, checks can be made out to UAAA (with "Habitat" in the memo line) and mailed to the congregation (First Unitarian Universalist of Ann Arbor, 4001 Ann Arbor-Saline Rd., Ann Arbor, MI 48103), or you can make a credit card donation from the link at <http://uuaa.org/h4h>. (Be sure to check the "Habitat for Humanity" box.)

2020/2021 Chalice Circles

Based on the success of virtual Chalice Circles held in March, April and May, the Chalice Circle Steering team is planning to offer virtual Chalice



Circles during the 2020/2021 program year. Chalice Circles are small, spiritual discussion groups. We are seeking feedback from those interested in participating as input to our planning. If Chalice Circles are of interest to you, please take the time to complete a [short survey](#) Please

contact chalicecircles@uuaa.org for more information.



Signup for Friday Fun Communications

Be the first to receive signup links for Friday Fun activities and news. Sign up for the Friday Fun mailer.

[Use this link.](#)



Calling All Knitters!

UUA Host a Comfort Shawl Ministry

Members of the UUA community knit amazing shawls which are then shared with community members for various reasons. In the last few months due to COVID and the many life transitions our community has experienced, we are low on shawls.

AND THAT IS WHERE YOU COME IN!

We are looking for help from our UUA Kitting community to add ten new shawls in the coming months.

COMFORT SHAWL MINISTRY

1. [Click here for the pattern](#) or go to the UUA Pastoral Care webpage. The pattern has both the knit and crochet versions.
2. Find some bright, beautiful yarn that speaks to your heart. Remember these are for new parents, grandparents, and those in various stages of grief and loss.
3. KNIT!
4. When the shawl is complete, reach out by email to PastoralCare@uuaa.org to make pick up arrangements.

P.S. YES! You can share this pattern with any knitters who desire to add the Shawl Ministry.

Thank you in advance for your help in this cherished ministry.

Pastoral Care



UUAA Book Worms

Do you love to read but haven't had the time to join a book club? A new book club is kicking off on Thursday, September 17 at 7:00pm via Zoom. UUAA Book Worms will be restricted to eight new members who haven't had the ability to join Wednesday

Morning Readers due to work or family circumstances or are new to the congregation. Our September book selection is *The Bean Trees* by Barbara Kingsolver. If you have questions or are a committed reader and would like to give it a try, email Liz Hartley at lizzyt48176@gmail.com.



UUUC Coffee Project

Equal Exchange coffee and chocolates are for sale again! This will be a curbside pickup or delivery with no contact program. Orders may be picked up in Ann Arbor (not at UUAA) or delivered to your home. See what we have in stock [using this link](#). Place

your order online by emailing uuaaequalexchangeorder@gmail.com or by calling Cathy Whitaker at 419-283-3430 or Ilene Beninson at 248-376-7031. All sales benefit the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee and this congregation.



Sharing the Collection

Your Contributions Make a Difference!

On the first Sunday of each month, the First Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Ann Arbor donates our collection to nonprofit community service organizations in the furtherance of their important work.

The Sharing the Collection committee is happy to share the good news: On June 7, we raised \$1725 for [Our House](#).

Mark your calendar for these upcoming collections:

- August 2, to Benefit [Michigan Prison Doula Initiative](#)
- September 13, to Benefit [Student Advocacy Center of Michigan](#)

While we gather on Sunday virtually, please mail your check to UUAA (4001 Ann Arbor-Saline Rd., Ann Arbor, MI 48103) with Sharing the Collection and the recipient organization in the memo. You can also contribute to Sharing the Collection [Online](#).

For more information about what we do on the Sharing the Collection committee, please check our web page at uuaa.org/sharingthecollection to see a list of all of our upcoming

2020 recipients.

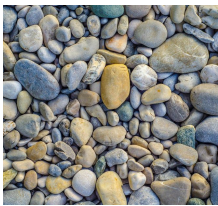
Please contact sharecollection@uuaa.org with any questions or suggestions.

The Sharing the Collection committee: Jan Duncan, Casey Jackson, Glenn Kime, Fran Lyman, Jim Marks, Mary Phelps, Kate Warner



Programming for Children & Youth

To learn about programming for children and youth, email SGD@uuaa.org.



Submitting to the *Weekly E-News* & *Monthly Newsletter*

All recognized UUAA groups may publicize UUAA events and news in the *Weekly E-News* and *Monthly Newsletter*.

***Weekly E-News/Bulletin* Deadline Wednesdays at 5:00pm**

Make submissions of 90 words or fewer to Bulletin@uuaa.org. If your group is advertising an event, please be sure to include the name of the event, date, time, and contact information to field questions. Please make your room reservation or Zoom room reservation before advertising an event. Note that during the stay-at-home order, we are not strictly limited to the 90 word limit; however we do ask that you stay in close range of that.

***Monthly Newsletter* Deadline The 21st of the Month at 9:00am**

Submissions of 300 words or fewer can be sent to Newsletter@uuaa.org.

If you have any questions about the *Weekly E-News/Bulletin* or *Monthly Newsletter*, contact Welcome Ministries Coordinator Hannah Hotchkiss at Hannah@uuaa.org.



Getting Started with Zoom

Use this [link for a quick tutorial to get started with Zoom.](#)

Quick Links:

[UUA Website](#) | [Social Justice at UUA](#) | [Find us on Facebook](#)
[Make Your Pledge](#) | [UUA Events Calendar](#)

Other Links:

[UUA.org](#) | [MidAmericaUUA.org](#)
[Side With Love](#) (formerly Standing on the Side of Love)



First Unitarian Universalist Congregation Of Ann Arbor

4001 Ann Arbor-Saline Road,
Ann Arbor MI 48103
734-665-6158

Contact Us

