



First Unitarian Universalist CONGREGATION OF ANN ARBOR

This Week at UUAA
November 26 - December 1, 2020

If you are unable to view this entire email, scroll down to the bottom and click "view entire message."

Updated submissions policy: Please submit your announcements for the *Weekly News* through [this form](#) by Tuesday at 5pm EST. The *Weekly News* is distributed each week on Thursday. **For the *Weekly News* December 17 - 23, the deadline will be Sunday, December 13.**

Questions? [Watch this video](#) on how to submit to the *Weekly News* or email Communications Ministry Specialist Kari Gottfried at communications@uuaa.org.

Support the ministries of UUAA:
Make an online offering today!



Healing Connections in Community

Sunday, November 29, 11:30am

[Join us live](#) or [watch the service](#) at your leisure any point throughout the week. Please extend a warm welcome to our Memphis family, joining us from Church of the River this Sunday!

Let your friends know you'll be attending by RSVPing to the [Facebook event at this link](#).

Then join us on Sunday at 11:30am Eastern www.uuaa.org/service.

After the service, join us for a Zoom social hour where we can check in as a community and further discuss the service. Use this

link to take part: uuaa.org/socialhour.

Congregational input on worship themes: Looking ahead to 2021, our theme for January is "imagine." What spiritual, ethical, and/or moral questions do you have related to this topic? [Ask them here!](#)

Need more worship in your life? Watch past services, songs, and stories in [our website archive](#).



Upcoming Events

All in Eastern Standard Time

Virtual Thanksgiving Gathering
Thursday, 2:30pm - 4:30pm

Bring your favorite dessert and drink for a relaxed conversation centered on traditions and blessings.

[Join the Thanksgiving Zoom here.](#)

Thanksgiving Walks

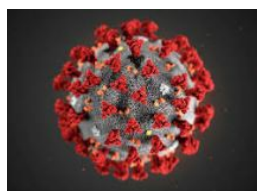
Friday, 10:00am - 3:00pm

It's not too late to join a walk! [Click here to learn more and sign up](#). Email hannah@uuaa.org or quiana@uuaa.org with questions.

Congregational Life Hour

Wednesday, 6:00pm

Join Coordinator of Congregational Life Quiana Perkins for a chance to connect with our UUA community. Email quiana@uuaa.org with questions. [Join the Congregational Life Zoom here.](#)



COVID-19 November Update

Read the latest from the COVID-19 Advisory Team [here](#).



Board of Trustees Update

UUA Aligns Investments with Values

At the Tuesday November 17 meeting and after several months of careful consideration, the Board of Trustees voted in favor of a proposal to move the UUA Jackson Social Welfare Fund and the Twenty-First Century Endowment Fund to the Unitarian Universalist Common Endowment Fund (UUCEF). This means that while distributions and proceeds from the two endowments are still

completely in the local control of UUAA, the portfolios will be invested under the management of the UUCEF. This gives investors (UUAA) the added benefit of an active program of socially responsible investing, which means that investment decisions are made that reflect UU values and contribute to positive social and environmental change. This vote was made on behalf of our UU values and our Vision 20/50 priorities.

Remember that congregants are welcome to observe Board of Trustee meetings. The schedule and instruction for how to register for the zoom meetings is on the website at uuaa.org.



QBuddies: Round 2

The QBuddy Program is a way for people in our UUAA community to connect during this COVID-19 period of increased isolation. When COVID-19 restrictions started last spring, UUAA began a very active

Q(uarantine) Buddy program that continued through mid-summer.

Six months later we are still in a pandemic, and still in need of connection. So, we've relaunched the QBuddy program for a second round, and we hope you'll join us!

[Sign up for a QBuddy here.](#)

Questions? [Download this letter](#) or email theresa@uuaa.org for more information.



Alpha House:
Thanksgiving Service Week
November 23 - 29

Alpha House is an emergency shelter for families temporarily experiencing homelessness in Washtenaw County. Our host week is November 23 - 29. A few cooks for Thanksgiving turkey and a few dishes for Saturday and Sunday are still needed.

Sign up online at tinyurl.com/AHNov20 to donate a dish (curbside), heat meals (kitchen only), oversee activity time (outdoor option if weather allows), or provide financial support. We are all working together to keep residents and volunteers safe during COVID.

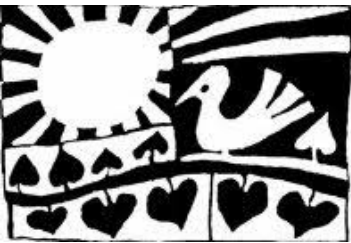


Alleviating Food Insecurity in Washtenaw County

Washtenaw County has seen a dramatic uptick in the number of people seeking emergency food as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. The Mindful Eating Team urges UUA members to support organizations addressing this challenge.

[Food Gatherers](#), our primary food rescue and distribution organization, announced two events to raise awareness and funds to meet the continuing need.

- November 16 - 29: Busch's Season of Sharing food drive. [Learn more here](#). Visit any Busch's store to participate.
- December 1- 5: "Rockin' for the Hungry." [Learn more here](#).



Interfaith Council for Peace & Justice (ICPJ): Online Auction

November 18 - 30

[The ICPJ](#) is hosting an online auction. Give a gift to ICPJ and a gift to yourself or a loved one through a "gifting double-dip." This replaces the annual harvest dinner fundraiser through which many UUA congregants come together to share a meal and celebrate the work of justice leaders in our community. [Use this link to get to the auction!](#)

If you're interested in supporting ICPJ's work, contact Jeannine LaPrad, ICPJ/UUA liaison, jlaprad@umich.edu.



You are invited to be a chalice lighter in upcoming worship services! You (alone or with family/others) can submit a video recording of you lighting whatever chalice you use at home. This is video only -- you do not need to say

anything! You may submit these recordings at any time.

[Guidelines for recording and submitting videos](#)

We look forward to your virtual presence in worship in the coming months. In peace, [the UUA Worship Team](#).

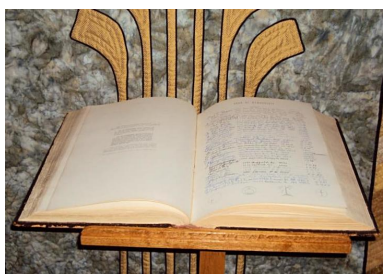


Humanist Study Groups

Thursday, December 3, 2:00pm

Humanism has a long history in our congregation. A lively group of humanists has been meeting for over 20 years. We are currently gathering on the second and fourth Monday evenings and/or first and third Thursday afternoons to discuss topics relating to humanist philosophy, theology, morals, ethics, reasoning, science -- the list is long and varied. All are welcome, regardless of theology or philosophy. On December 3 we will discuss a David Brooks column about conversations and a Yo-Yo Ma interview.

All meetings are now virtual: To get on our mail list, get the login information, or ask any other questions, send a query to humanistgroupinfo@uuaa.org.



Introduction to Our Faith

*Saturday, December 5 and 12
10:00am - Noon*

This two-session class launches you on your way toward membership and/or a deeper understanding of this congregation and faith. We will share our spiritual journeys, learn about the history of Unitarian Universalism and this congregation, and explore your calling. We will also discuss how to get involved and what the meaning and responsibilities of membership are. This class is a prerequisite to official membership.

[Register by Monday, November 30](#) or email Welcome Ministries Coordinator Hannah Hotchkiss at hannah@uuaa.org.

Sharing the Collection

Sunday, December 6



This month, we will share our collection with the [House by the Side of the Road](#), a group established 50 years ago, that provides clothing, bedding, and small household items free of charge to people in need, primarily in the Ann Arbor/Ypsilanti area. They have served about

2000 people/year over the last two years. This year has been especially challenging because of COVID-19. They are 100% volunteer supported, their normal fund raising event couldn't be held, and people in need now have to make appointments to come to avoid crowding. Despite all this, they are averaging well over 100 people/month during COVID times. The pandemic has not reduced the need but has challenged their ability to respond to the need.

Questions?

Mary Danforth, House Manager: m19danforth44@gmail.com.



Community of Writers Congregational Zoom Reading

Sunday, December 13

1:00pm - 2:30pm

The UUAU Community of Writers invites you to share in a Congregational Zoom Reading of our writings from the year of 2020. Come enjoy our stories, personal reflections, poems, and memoir excerpts. Each writer will read 5 minutes; many will have their writings screen shared for all to follow as they read. We'll reserve time for everyone to chat at the end! [Click here for the Zoom link](#). Questions? Email Mary Lund at mlund@mi.rr.com or Sandy Kunkle at sandykunkle@gmail.com.



Join Outdoors Womyn

Outdoors Womyn is a small group that meets outdoors with COVID precautions for walking, hiking, bonfires, kayaking, and occasional bike rides (in warmer months).

We also have members who would love cross-country skiing or snowshoeing if nature provides the weather for it. If you identify as a woman and want to be on our email distribution list, just send a message to outdoors-women@uuaa.org (your message will bounce back but it will be sent to the admin). Beware there is a fair bit of Reply-All but no spam.



Zooming with Our Transylvanian Partners

Exciting news! The Partner Church team had our first Zoom get-together with Istvan Buzogany-Csoma (minister), wife Csilla, and family, including new baby Lilla-Baroka. Some good ideas were begun with this get-together, and we plan to continue meeting this way, probably even after the pandemic is over.

Look to future *Weekly News* announcements for how you can let us know you're interested in participating.



Interweave Hiatus

As a moment of honoring the needs of the community, Interweave will be hiatus starting December 1, 2020 until March 2021. We anticipate reconvening the group in early March to plan for Trans Day of Visibility. Email quiana@uuaa.org with questions.



UUAU Groups: Reserve a Zoom Room

Submit your [Zoom room reservations here.](#)

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

Quick Links:

[UUAU Website](#) | [Social Justice at UUAU](#) | [View past services](#)
[Make your pledge](#) | [UUAU Events Calendar](#)



Other Links:

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

Contact Us

First Unitarian Universalist Congregation Of Ann Arbor

4001 Ann Arbor-Saline Road

Ann Arbor, MI 48103

734-665-6158

communications@uuaa.org