



FIRST UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION OF ANN ARBOR

This Week at UUAA September 15 - 21, 2022

If you are unable to view this entire email, scroll down to the bottom and click "view entire message." The email ends with a "contact us" button and our address.

The *Weekly News* is distributed each Thursday. Deadlines for submissions are Tuesdays at 5:00pm.

The deadline for the *September 22 Weekly News* is Tuesday, September 20 at 5:00pm Eastern [through this form](#).

The deadline for the *October Monthly Newsletter* is Wednesday, September 21 at 5pm Eastern [through this form](#).

Questions? [Watch this video](#) on how to submit to the *Weekly News*, or email Hannah at communications@uuaa.org.



Sunday Morning Worship "Banning the Ideas We Don't Like"

Sunday, September 18, 9:30am & 11:30am, in person and online at uuaa.org/service

This Sunday, as we officially launch our new year of Spiritual Growth and Development (SGD) programming, we examine the rising practice of banning books about LGBTQIA issues, trans issues, racial justice, and other critical topics from our nation's public libraries. How can we be present to ideas - including ideas we don't necessarily like - while honoring community and relationship?

After Services | Social Hour

10:30am & 12:30pm

You are invited to the Social Hall for refreshments and to browse the group display tables.



Registration for SGD 2022/2023 Is Now Open!

The Spiritual Growth and Development (SGD) program empowers youth to explore themselves and the world from a Unitarian Universalist perspective. We are excited to welcome back children and youth for 2022/2023!

Registration for classes is now open. Please fill out the following google form as soon as possible.

SGD Registration 2022/2023

This year, Nursery and Preschool will be offered during both services (9:30am and 11:30am). All other grade level classes (K - 12) will be offered at 11:30am only. Children and youth will be placed in the following cohorts: K/1st grade, 2nd/3rd grade, 4th/5th grade, 6th/7th grade, 8th grade OWL, and 9th - 12th grade Young Religious UUs (YRUU); 9th and 10th graders will have the option of enrolling in a concurrent Coming of Age (COA) program within YRUU. The COA program will include working with an adult mentor to craft and present a credo to the congregation.

A detailed informational email will arrive before the start of classes.

Questions or concerns? Please contact Stella Anderson, director of Spiritual Growth and Development, at stella@uuaa.org



New Wi-Fi Assisted-Listening System

UUAA has a new Wi-Fi assisted-listening system that supports the widest range of needs now and in the future.

An app on your smart device connected to our guest Wi-Fi sends real-time audio directly to your existing Bluetooth hearing aids! It also supports t-coil hearing aids, headphones, or earbuds. We even have ready-to-use devices that you can borrow during a service.

Try it out! [Instructions are on the booth window](#). See an usher or AV Team member for more help.

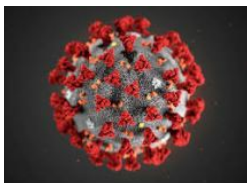


Recently, submissions to the *Weekly News* and *Monthly News* have far exceeded the word limits, leading to very long publications. This works against us, challenging the attention span and patience of our readers. The *Weekly News* submission form will no longer accept submissions longer than 90 words and the *Monthly Newsletter* word limit is 300 words or fewer.

Questions? Email communications@uuaa.org.

Support the ministries of UUAA: Make an online offering.

Upcoming Events & Announcements For a full list of events, visit the UUAA Calendar.



Update from the UUAA Covid Advisory Team

The UUAA Covid-19 Advisory Team met on August 24 to review UUAA's pandemic-related health and safety protocols. [Read more here.](#)



Lay Worship Leaders Program From Rev. Manish

I am delighted to share that on August 24, UUAA had its inaugural retreat with lay and staff participants of UUAA's new Lay Worship Leaders Program. The lay cohort of this program for the year ahead will be: Hayley Boyse, Mojtaba Akhavan-Tafti, Eli Kranz, Arika Lycan, Joe Libin, Barbara Lynn, Rick Witten, and Holly Ferrise. [Read more here.](#)



Humanist Discussions

Thursday, September 15, 2:00pm - 4:00pm

Monday, September 26, 7:00pm - 9:00pm, via Zoom

Topics for Thursday: "The Consequences of Merging Church and State," "The Sins of the High Court's Supreme Catholic," and "Chloe Valdary on *How to Be an Antiracist*"

Topics for Monday: TBD

Humanists have been meeting for over 20 years at UUAA, gathering on the second and fourth Mondays and/or first and third Thursdays to discuss topics relating to Humanist philosophy, theology, morals, ethics, reasoning, and science. All are welcome. Meetings are virtual. To get on our email list, the Zoom link, or answers to any other questions, send a query to humanistgroupinfo@uuaa.org.



TrUU Hope September Events

Friday, September 16, 7:00pm - 9:00pm

Sunday, September 25, 1:00pm - 3:00pm

TrUU Hope September Events:

- Friday, September 16, in person at UUAA: Adventure Team-Building Games! Led by a guest professional
- Sunday, September 25, in person at UUAA: TrUU Hope Fall Kick-Off Day! Pizza and games

TrUU Hope is a UUAA group for LGBTQIA+ (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, intersex, asexual, and similarly identified) youth. We aim to grow community and to provide social, support, educational, and activist programs, and opportunities for our youth to explore their identities and interests.

Questions? Want to be added to our email list? Send an email to TrUUHopeInfo@uuaa.org.



Introduction to Our Faith

Thursdays, September 22 & 29, 7:00pm - 9:00pm, via Zoom

Register by Friday, September 16

This two-session Zoom class launches you on your path toward membership in this congregation. We will share our spiritual journeys, cover the history of Unitarian Universalism and this congregation, explore your calling and how to get involved, and discuss the meaning and responsibilities of membership. This class is a prerequisite to official membership. The registration deadline is Friday, September 16. [Register here](#) or email Welcome Ministries Coordinator Hannah Hotchkiss at Hannah@uuaa.org.

SPONTANO September Zoom

Saturday, September 17, 1:00pm - 2:30pm, via Zoom



SPOTANO (Supportive Parents of Trans and/or Non-binary Offspring) is having our third Zoom gathering.

We are a friendly group helping each other support our trans offspring. This is not a therapy group; we are parents and caregivers who share similar life experiences and want to do well by our kids, no matter what age they are. Join us to tell your story and hear others!

Email JJ at SPOTANO@uuaa.org for more information and the link to the Zoom.



Sharing the Collection September Recipient

Sunday, September 18

We honor the work of [Dawn Farm](#) as the recipient of Sharing the Collection for September. Dawn Farm provides treatment for addiction and ongoing recovery. They offer a full array of services to help clients achieve long-term recovery.

Checks may be dropped into the Sunday collection basket or mailed to UUA (UUA, Attn. Administrator, 4001 Ann Arbor-Saline Road, Ann Arbor, MI 48103). Please write "Sharing the Collection/Dawn Farm" in the memo line. You may also [contribute online](#).

As a result of the generous support from our congregation during the month of August, the Sharing the Collection team is pleased to report a check in the amount of \$2,573.00 will be sent to the National Alliance on Mental Illness of Washtenaw County (NAMI). Thank you, UUs!

Questions? Email sharecollection@uuaa.org.



Food Justice: Tasting Table and Produce Sharing

Sunday, September 18, Social Hour after both services

This Sunday, the Food Justice Social Hall table will feature information, books, and recipes based on whole-food, plant-based eating. Stop by for a taste!

Back by popular demand! Next Sunday, September 25, the Food Justice Team will sponsor our Surplus Produce Sharing table. Please take advantage of this chance to share the abundance of your garden with others in the congregation and/or to obtain some home-grown produce for yourself and your family. More information in the next *Weekly News*. Contact foodjustice@uuaa.org with questions or interest in the Food Justice Team.



Community of Writers Zoom Meeting

Sunday, September 18, 1:00pm - 3:00pm

“What did you wish to be when you were a child?” is the prompt for the Writers’ September gathering. Anne Ramsey, the member who suggested the prompt, remembers her wish to be a fish because of her favorite book, “I Want to Be a Fish.” Members can write to this prompt or on any subject they choose and in any genre. Readings are limited to 5 minutes. Contact the September 18 facilitators Kathy Friedrichs (kamf@umich.edu) or Anne Ramsey (anneramsey2910@comcast.net) for information or the Zoom link.



Proposed 8th Principle Forum - Background and Big Picture

Sunday, September 18, 2:00pm - 3:30pm, Fahs

Chapel & via Zoom

Register in advance

We are eager to see you at the Proposed 8th Principle Forum on Sunday, September 18, from 2:00pm - 3:30pm in person in the Fahs Chapel or via Zoom. [Register here](#) by the morning of September 18.

At this forum we want to share the background and meaning of the proposed 8th Principle. After you register, you will be sent a link to articles ([also posted on the UUA website](#)) to read, preferably beforehand. Questions will be expected and encouraged. You can read about this subject by going to 8thprincipleuu.org

Palestine Advocacy Days 2022

Monday - Friday, September 19 - 23

UUs for Justice in the Middle East welcomes your participation. As Americans, we have a responsibility to advocate for Palestinian rights because our



government provides weapons and diplomatic support that enables Israel's oppression of the Palestinian people.

[Register](#) for

- Advocacy training: Monday, September 19, 4:30pm - 5:30pm
- Plenary with Congress members: Tuesday, September 20, 1:00pm - 3:00pm
- Virtual meetings with Congress: September 21 - 23 (30-minute meetings)

[Learn more here.](#)



Protecting Democracy Rally for Full Equality

Wednesday, September 21, noon - 1:30pm

Rev. Manish will give opening remarks at the Rally for Full Equality on the steps of the State Capitol in Lansing. This rally is hosted by Inclusive Justice of Michigan and sponsored by MUUSJN, UUAA, and others. Let's have a great show of support from our congregation! The rally will advocate for and educate on the importance of racial justice, women's reproductive rights, LGBTQ+ equality, voting rights, and more.

Join us in a caravan to Lansing. [Sign up here](#) to indicate your interest.



UUAA Fiber Arts Group

Wednesday, September 21, 7:00pm - 9:00pm, via Zoom

Saturday, October 1, 11:00am - 1:00pm, Young Room

Come knit, crochet, embroider, or engage in some form of fiber arts together. UUAA Fiber Arts Group meets on the first Saturday and third Wednesday of the month for fellowship and sharing of knowledge and ideas. If you are a beginner looking for support or an experienced crafter, all are welcome. We also have quilters that have joined us.

If you would like to make comfort shawls or baby blankets for Pastoral Care, arrangements can be made to supply you with the yarn and pattern.

For a Zoom link or questions, send us an email at crafters@uuaa.org.



Alpha House Fundraiser

Thursday, September 22, 4:00pm - 7:00pm

Alpha House is a shelter for families experiencing homelessness in Washtenaw County. Our annual food truck fundraiser Driving Home is in Ann Arbor on Thursday, September 22, 4:00pm - 7:00pm. To order meals, visit <https://www.alphahouse-ihn.org/driving-home>. A tent with seating will be available outside Alpha House. Tours of the shelter will be offered after dinner!

Volunteers are also needed to help run the event. Contact zcrutchfield@alphahouse-ihn.org for details.



Grill'n and Chill'n | Friday Fun Night Outdoor Dinner and Movie

Friday, September 23, 6:00pm - 9:45pm, in person at UUAA

Gather with friends and family for a cookout and outdoor movie at UUAA. Bring a friend, date, or neighbor for burgers (veggie and meat), hot dogs, chips, salad, and brownies. After dinner, enjoy crafts and games, followed by outdoor movies. The preshow for the younger crowd will feature children's stories from the UUAA services. The main feature is Pixar's *Soul*, starting shortly after sunset at 7:30pm. Popcorn will be served during the movies! So bring your lawn chairs or picnic blankets, friends, and family members, and join the fun! There is a suggested donation of \$5 per person. Please help us to avoid food waste by letting us know you are coming. [Fill out an RSVP form here](#). (Note: the event will be held inside if there is rain.)

Questions? Email Hannah@uuaa.org.



Radical Hospitality, Justice-Involved People, and Faith in Action Workshop

Saturday, September 24, 10:30am - 3:00pm, Fahs Chapel

Please join Restorative Justice, Racial Justice Arc, and Radical Welcome for this workshop led by Rev. Allison Farnum, director of UU Prison Ministry of Illinois. Our hope is to engage our UU community in building new systems of safety and healing for those returning from incarceration to community. Please take the time to [look at the extraordinary work done in solidarity by](#)

[UU communities](#) and [register for the workshop here](#).

Questions? Email healingandjustice@uuaa.org.



Seminar: Topics in Civil Rights History with Rev. Manish

Starting Wednesday, September 28, 6:30pm - 8:30pm, via Zoom

Join Rev. Manish for this nine-month seminar in which participants will explore selected "Topics in Civil Rights History," focusing on the time period 1940 - 1970. We will look at how the history of this time period continues to impact US society and how it might inform our ongoing activism on intersectional justice issues.

Participants will also have the option to participate in a UUAA journey in October 2023 as part of a Living Legacy Pilgrimage to learn about the civil rights history of Mississippi.

Dates/Time:

Wednesdays, September 28, October 26, November 30, December 21, 2022, and

Wednesdays, January 18, February 22, March 22, April 26, May 24, 2023

6:30pm - 8:30pm ET

[Get more information and register here.](#)



Fall Men's Retreat

Saturday, October 1

Register by September 19 if you intend to buy a T-shirt. Theme: "Finding Creativity in Everything You Do."

We'll officially start at 12:30pm on Saturday, October 1, at UUAA. There will be lodge meetings, times for choice activities, a catered dinner, and an evening bonfire.

Want a longer retreat? You can arrive Friday night, camp out, have a cookout breakfast in the morning, and hang out or work on one of several much-needed projects on the congregation's land.

For more information and to register, [click here](#).



"What Is Racism" Small Group Circle

Sunday, October 2, 1:00pm - 3:00pm, via Zoom

Join us for an open, non-judgmental conversation about Racism, which we'll explore together in a small group chalice circle-type format. This is an opportunity to explore Racism together with peers, including your current understanding of Racism, how you see it manifesting in today's world, and more. We will read, share, and engage in reflection and open discussion on Racism, particularly Racism in present-day America.

This session will be one-and-a-half to two hours in length, taking place virtually through Zoom, co-facilitated by Cindy O'Connor and Arika Lycan, leaders of UUAA's Racial Justice Arc. As this is a small, intimate group, please understand that signing up is a commitment to attend and participate.

[Register here](#). Questions? Email racialjusticearc@uuaa.org.



Register Now for the Fall WomUUn's Retreat!

Friday - Sunday, October 7 - 9

Register Now

Our wonderful and hard-working committee is finalizing the program and implementing safety measures to protect our beloved WomUUn's Community! Join nearly 50 UUAA friends as we reflect, laugh, and connect. We will enjoy light-hearted activities and deep social connections. The theme, "Finding JOY!," is a mindful and intentional choice to help center us as we emerge from being too long apart, with too many pressing social and political issues weighing us down.

[View the brochure here](#).

Click here [to register online](#).

Questions? Contact chairs Amy or Judi at WomUUnsRetreat@UUAA.org.



Say Yes! to Centered Leadership Training (CLT)

Thursday, October 20, 7:00pm - 8:30pm (CLT I)

Monday, November 7, 7:00pm - 8:30pm (CLT II)

A number of recent CLT graduates have stepped up

their leadership commitment to our Beloved Community this year!

Holly Kelchner offers her inspiration:

As a person new to UUAA, and the Unitarian Universalist community in general, the Centered Leadership course gave me a pathway to deeper understanding of the history and governance of the faith. The course strengthened my decision to become a member of the UUAA congregation.

New CLT I and CLT II classes are starting in October. Please stop by our table in the Social Hall this Sunday for more information, or contact us via email to sign up ldt@uuaa.org.

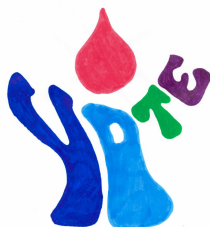


Capital Campaign Status

As announced at the August 21 service, our capital campaign has so far gathered 109 pledges totaling \$900,000, and we have already received well over 1/3 of that. We remain open for pledges and donations, but with the support received so far, we have been able to get to work.

- We have scheduled the installation next summer of solar panels that will generate over 100,000 kWh of electricity annually, or almost all of our requirements.
- We are close to signing a contract for a series of measures to make our building envelope more energy efficient: plugging holes, additional insulation, . . . basic stuff.
- We have also scheduled a meeting to gather your input for a long-range site plan. How might we make the site more carbon neutral, and more appropriate for the future we face? The meeting is scheduled for October 2, a Sunday afternoon. Look for notices, and please join us.

Questions? Email ed@uuaaa.org.



UUCivs: Postcard Campaign and UU the Vote

- UUCivs is kicking off a postcard-writing campaign to support and encourage voters in underrepresented communities across the country—join us!!

Stop by the UUCivs table after Sunday services to grab some postcards and get started! These cards are due back Sunday, September 25. [Watch this video for important guidelines.](#)

- UU the Vote and [MUUSJN](#) have organized a week of Michigan voting events September 14 - 17. [Use this link](#) for details on the virtual rally and phone/text banking.

Questions? Email uucivs@uuaa.org.



Help Wanted: Climate Action/Climate Justice Projects

On our path to [Green Sanctuary 2030 certification](#), UUA created an “[Opportunity Assessment](#),” describing projects our congregation might pursue to lower our carbon footprint and work toward climate justice.

Which projects should we work on first? We can start by working on projects that have volunteers willing to help—maybe you, or a UUA group you represent?

Please [go to this SignUpGenius page and sign up for projects](#) you would enjoy being part of. All are welcome and encouraged to join in fulfilling UUA's Vision 20/50.



Vision 20/50 Sharing and Reflection

Over the last church year, we held our first whole-congregation “Gathering Table” events, which provided space to discuss how we might create a bright and just future in the areas of Climate Action/Climate Justice, Anti-Racism/Anti-Oppression, and Radical Welcome.

Our worship team integrated Vision 20/50 themes into Sunday services to engage our hearts in the work ahead.

So what did we learn? Seven reflection sessions were held this spring, and they were thoughtful and productive conversations. [Here is the three-page summary](#).

Questions? Email vision@uuaa.org.

Green Corner: Ecological Roofing

Basic physics: lighter colors reflect sunlight and dark



colors absorb the heat. Hence, light-colored roofs keep a house cooler. Traditionally, curb appeal and style decided roofing, and asphalt shingles reigned supreme. Nowadays there are many options for ecological roofing.

Consider metal, tile, wood, cement, or roofing made from recyclables. There are multiple options beyond traditional asphalt shingles. A light-colored, ecological roof, plus good insulation and surrounding trees make a big temperature difference, keeping homes cooler and saving energy on the taxed power grid. Learn about ecological roofing by clicking on the links below.

- [Sustainable-Roofing Materials: What to Know](#)
- [The Homeowner's Sunshine Problem](#)

Questions? Email greencorner@uuaa.org.

Links

[Request a Room](#), [Request an Outdoor Space](#) | [View Past Services](#)
[Log in to Realm](#) | [Make Your Pledge](#)



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

Contact Us

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