



FIRST UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION OF ANN ARBOR

This Week at UUAA September 8 - 14, 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 15 Weekly News* is Tuesday, September 13 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

"We Rise Again: Our Annual Water Communion Service"

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

Join us this Sunday as UUAA returns to two services (9:30am and 11:30am) and begins the 2022 - 2023 congregational year with our annual Water Communion service. We will honor our commitment to one another in community, and the collective impact that we can harness together. You are invited to bring a small amount of water from your home or recent travels to contribute to our communion this Sunday (and if you forget, there will be water available from our UUAA congregational home).

After Services | Social Hour

10:30am & 12:30pm

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



New Wi-Fi Assisted-Listening System

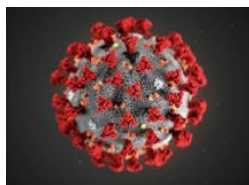
Accessibility and Inclusion Ministry (AIM) and the Audiovisual (AV) Team at UUA have worked together to launch a new Wi-Fi assisted-listening system that supports the widest range of needs now and in the future.

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.

Support the ministries of UUA: Make an online offering.

Upcoming Events & Announcements For a full list of events, [visit the UUA Calendar](#).



Update from the UUA Covid Advisory Team

The UUA Covid-19 Advisory Team met on August 24 to review UUA'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, UUA had its inaugural retreat with lay and staff participants of UUA'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.](#)



UU Lunchers

Thursday, September 15, 11:30am - 1:00pm

RSVP by Thursday, September 8

Do you miss meeting in person? Would you like a chance to reconnect with UUAA friends?

Please join us for a bring-your-own lunch at UUAA on Thursday, September 15 at 11:30am.

We will talk, laugh, and hear each other's news. Coffee, tea, and water provided. Please RSVP by September 8 to UU Lunchers at uulunchers@uuaa.org. Also, let us know if you need a ride, and we will do our best to help. We plan to do this again on October 13.



Kaleidoscope Welcome Bonfire

Friday, September 9, 7:00pm - 9:00pm, in person

Kaleidoscope, UUAA's LGBTQIA+ group, invites you to a bonfire in the UUAA parking lot! Bring your own chair and snacks. BYOB (but no liquor). If the weather isn't great on Friday, September 9, we'll plan for the next day, Saturday, September 10. For more information, please check out our Facebook event (<https://fb.me/e/3oUTRbjBI>) or send us an email at kaleidoscopeinfo@uuaa.org. All are welcome!



Newcomer Chalice Circle | Covenant

Saturday, September 17, 1:00pm - 3:00pm, via Zoom

Register by Sunday, September 11

If you are new to UUAA and would like to explore a basic tenet of Unitarian Universalism, join us for a Zoom discussion of what it means to be a covenantal religion. How does this differ from a credal religion? What inspiration or challenges are presented with a covenant? You will receive short advanced reflections to contemplate. We will practice deep listening during the discussion. [Register here](#). Questions? Email Hannah@uuaa.org.

Humanist Discussions

Monday, September 12, 7:00pm - 9:00pm



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

Topics for Thursday: TBD

Topics for Monday: “Why Your Social Life Is Not What It Should Be” and more

Lively groups of Humanists have been meeting for over 20 years at UUAA, 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, and more. All are welcome. All meetings are still virtual. To get on our email list, get the Zoom login information, or get 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 2, 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.



SPANTANO 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-ever Zoom gathering.

We are starting a friendly group to help 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 UUAA (UUAA, 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](#).

Questions? Email sharecollection@uuaa.org.



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.



RALLY FOR FULL EQUALITY
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 21ST, NOON
STATE OF MICHIGAN CAPITOL STEPS

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 Capital 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 East Lansing. [Sign up here](#) to indicate your interest.



UUAA Fiber Arts Group

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

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.

We meet the first Saturday of the month 11:00am - 1:00pm in person in the Young Room at UUAA, and the third Wednesday of the month, 7:00pm - 9:00pm on Zoom.

For the 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](#).

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

Make your reservation now for the Fall Men's Retreat. Our theme is "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 cookout dinner, and an evening bonfire.

Looking for 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 UUAA land.

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

"What is Racism" Small Group Circle

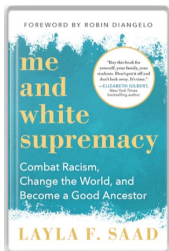
Sunday, October 2, 1:00pm - 3:00pm, via Zoom



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.



Me and White Supremacy Book Circle

*Tuesdays, October 4 - November 1, 7:00pm - 8:30pm or
Wednesdays, October 5 - November 2, 7:00pm - 8:30pm, via
Zoom*

The Racial Justice Arc (RJA) invites you to participate in a small-group reading and discussion of *Me and White Supremacy: Combat Racism, Change the World, and Become a Good Ancestor* by Layla F. Saad. The book and associated journal prompts encourage readers to understand their white privilege and their participation in white supremacy. While all are welcome to participate in these circles, Saad cautions that, "This work takes a considerable emotional labor toll of BIPOC, and the work is not for them to do – it is for people with white privilege to do." With that noted, the group facilitators will work to make this a safe space for all who choose to participate.

There will be two time options offered for these virtual book groups, taking place over Zoom, each running weekly for five consecutive weeks:

- Tuesdays, October 4 - November 1, 7:00pm - 8:30pm: Facilitated by Larry Works and Arika Lycan
- Wednesdays, October 5 - November 2, 7:00pm - 8:30pm: Facilitated by Kristin LeSueur; and Kate and Jon Thomas-Palmer

[Sign up for a Book Circle here](#).

Questions? Reach out to racialjusticearc@uuaa.org.



Register Now for the Fall WomUUn's Retreat!

Friday - Sunday, October 7 - 9

Register Now

Our wonderful and hardworking 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)

A number of recent CLT graduates have stepped up their leadership commitment to our Beloved Community at UUAA this year! Sissel Bridges offers her inspiration:

- Wanting to be active in an organization I truly believe in
- The training gave me the chance to step back from my responsibilities, to examine the organization, and to think about how I could best be of service
- "The heart of a volunteer is never measured in size, but by the depth of the commitment to make a difference in the life of others." DeAnn Hollis

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.



UUCivs: Postcard Campaign and UU the Vote

1. 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.](#)

2. 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.



Food Justice: More Good News on Plant-Based Diets

Did you know plant-based eating is a great way to lose weight? However, it's not a diet you do for a few weeks to achieve this result, it's a permanent change to your eating habits. Avoid eating meat, eggs, and dairy products and instead eat plant-based foods—vegetables, grains, beans, and fruits. This way of eating has many health benefits, such as lowering cholesterol, which reduces the risk of heart disease, and improving insulin sensitivity, which decreases the risk of diabetes. [Click here for more information](#), and visit the Food Justice table in the Social Hall on Sunday, September 18, for more information on whole-food, plant-based eating.

Questions? Email foodjustice@uuaa.org.



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.

Climate Goals from UUA's Vision 20/50



Carbon neutral? Zero Waste? We have all looked for ways to address the climate crisis. Climate Action | Climate Justice is delighted to report that working together, we have advanced our Vision 20/50 goals and taken a step toward re-certification as a **Green Sanctuary congregation**.

Thank you to all participants in last fall's Climate Survey, Gathering Table, Climate Justice Forum, or brainstorming meetings. Your input was distilled into an "Opportunity Assessment" submitted to the UUA Green Sanctuary Committee, who sent very positive feedback on our assessment of the opportunities and challenges ahead. Read the summary Opportunity Assessment [here](#).

Questions? Email climate@uuaa.org.



Green Corner: A2 Zero Plant-Based Challenge

Many experts believe the most effective action individuals can take to reduce their carbon footprint is to move to a plant-based diet. Raising livestock (especially beef) for food consumption produces powerful greenhouse gasses (GHG.) The carbon footprint of eating beef is HUGE, even more than transportation for most Americans.

Ann Arbor's A2 Zero project invites you to join their challenge September 11 - 17, to experiment with a plant-based diet. For information, [click here](#).

If you are reading this, please email "Yes" to greencorner@uuaa.org and indicate how often you read Green Corner: always, sometimes, rarely, or never.

**VOLUNTEERS
NEEDED**



We Need Teachers for the 2022 - 2023 SGD Year!

September is right around the corner, and we need teachers at all grade levels for our Sunday Spiritual Growth and Development (SGD) program. This year, the SGD program is hoping to build teaching teams for the following cohorts: K/1st, 2nd/3rd, 4th/5th, 6th/7th, 8th grade OWL, and YRUU. In addition to teachers, we need mentors for high school youth that opt to participate in a modified Coming of Age program within YRUU. More information will be available in the coming weeks. If you have questions or would like to volunteer, please

email stella@uuaa.org.



Join a Sunday Welcome Team

Did you know that on a typical Sunday, 20 to 25% of the congregants you see at UUA are volunteering that day? They may be ushering, greeting, distributing information, singing, teaching, or helping cleanup. You, the congregants, make Sundays run smoothly! Consider a once-a-month position on a Sunday Welcome Team. UUA needs ushers, greeters, social hour assistants, and hosts to speak with newcomers. Interested? [Click here](#). Questions? Email Hannah at hannah@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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