



April Theme of Transformation:

*Reunite with
your true self*

*All we need is
inside us*

*Accept yourself
for who you are*

*Reflect the divine spark within
each person you encounter*

Sundays at UUCG

10:00 am Faith Development
11:00 am Worship Service

April 1

The Joy & the Suffering of Humanity

Rev. Jan Taddeo, Service Leader
Miriam Patrick, Worship Associate
Flower Ceremony

April 8

It's the Little Things

Paige Varner, Service Leader
Ember Webb, Worship Associate

April 15

The Wheel of Transformation : Becoming the Song of Our Hearts

Daniel Bailey, Service Leader
Sherree Bailey, Worship Associate
Potluck, UU 101 & 102, Youth Group

April 22

We Are Groot

Rev. Taddeo, Service Leader
Lorena Griffin, Worship Associate

April 29

Resisting White Supremacy: What's In It for White People

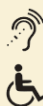
Ken Wagner, Service Leader
Rev. Taddeo, Worship Associate



April plate contributions are shared
equally with HOPE, the non-profit
Hispanic Organization Promoting
Education
www.hopestrong.org

Assisted Listening Devices Available

Wheelchair Accessible



Flower Ceremony *The Joy & the Suffering of Humanity*



Sunday, April 1
11:00 am

Rev. Taddeo, Service Leader
Miriam Patrick, Worship
Associate

Bring a flower from your
garden to share

Field trip to El Refugio and Stewart Detention Center



Saturday April 14
6:30am – 7 pm.
RSVP due April 5

Contact JoAnn at
joannweiss@hotmail.com

Best Gluten-Free Dish Contest



April 15
After Service

Visit www.uucg.org
and select "Register"
to enter your
recipe or story!

Register

Boy Scouts Selling Camp Cards



Sunday, April 15
After Service

You get discounts at
local merchants and
help boys pay for
activities and summer
camp.

New Adult / Young Adult Potluck Meet and Greet



Sunday, April 15
5pm-8pm

Hosted by Rev. Taddeo

Register on the
UUCG Website

Register

Movie Night – New Night Friday, April 20



Doors open at 6:30 pm
Film begins at 7:00 pm

Hosted by the
UUCG Green Team

Forum on Immigrant Justice



Sunday, April 29
3:00-5:00 pm

Temple Beth David
in Snellville

Registration required:

<https://immigrant-justice.eventbrite.com>

Biggest Event in Our Faith Movement

June 20-24 in Kansas City, MO



General Assembly (GA)

Registration now open!

www.uua.org/ga

Visit www.uucg.org & select "Calendar of Events" for details!

Send your news to Announcements@uucg.org by noon on Tuesdays.



Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Gwinnett

12 Bethesda Church Road

Lawrenceville, Georgia 30044

770-717-7913 • www.uucg.org

Visit www.uucg.org and select "Register for Events"



*We are a radically welcoming sanctuary in a green space. We foster spiritual growth
as we joyfully nurture connections and community within our walls and beyond.*



Nuture your SPIRIT. Help HEAL our world.

"Here you will be cared for and called upon to care for others."

Stewardship

- **Annual Pledge.** Members are asked to make an annual financial pledge each Fall in the amount of their choice. Gifts of 2% or more of disposable income help keep UUCG financially strong.
- **Birthday Club.** Give a \$1 for each year you're celebrating on your birthday to help grow the Endowment Fund. Write "Birthday Club" on the memo line..
- **Amazon.** Visit www.uucg.org and click on the Amazon link at the bottom and UUCG will receive 4% or more of your purchase.
- **Kroger Community Rewards.** Visit www.KrogerCommunityRewards.com to register your Kroger Plus Card. You keep all your points & Kroger gives to UUCG based on your purchases. Select "My Account" to login and add UUCG (19343).
- **Planet Green Recycle.** Place these unwanted or used electronics in the bin in the Lounge for UUCG to submit for funds: Inkjet Cartridges, Cell Phones/Pagers & Accessories, GPS & Radar Detectors, Mobile Hot Spots, calculators, eBook Readers, iPods/MP3 Players, digital/video cameras, PDAs, iPads/Tablets, video game consoles & handhelds, video games & accessories, laser/toner cartridges.
- **Blue Boat Bargains.** Visit our store on e-Bay or make a donation to UUCG when you shop on e-Bay or donate items for UUCG to sell on e-Bay.
- **UUCG Sales.** Fair trade coffee, chocolate, and cocoa at the Equal Exchange cabinet, books and jewelry and other items from our Bookstore, artwork from the gallery, and CDs from the Tech Team all benefit the UUCG operating budget.

Grow & Connect by Getting Involved!

The Leadership Development Committee is now accepting nominations for the Leadership Development Committee and Board of Trustees. The ballot box is on the credenza in the foyer. Contact Thomas Yun, Katrina Yurko or Denise Benshoof with questions.

Faith in Action

Living our values

Give Away the Plate



UUCG shares Sunday morning offering with selected non-profit groups as a way to acknowledge our gratitude and give to our community. UUCG members, youth, and staff can nominate an organization. Current plate recipient is HOPE, the non-profit Hispanic Organization Promoting Education. Contact the team at giveawaytheplate@uucg.org.

Yarns from the Heart, 1st and 3rd Wednesdays at 10:00am



Knitters and crocheters gather to create prayer shawls, baby blankets and other fiber gifts for members & friends of UUCG and the wider community. Contact yarnsfromtheheart@uucg.org.

Special Opportunities This April:

Planning Meeting on April 8. Come work on a range of issues, including immigrant rights, rights for the LGBTQ community, and environmental justice & awareness.

Field Trip: Visit Stewart Detention Center & El Refugio on April 14. This will be an all-day excursion, but so very worthwhile. Contact JoAnn Weiss by April 5 to register.

Understanding the Culture of White Supremacy April 28, 10:00 - 2:00. Workshop with Ken Wagner, President of Allies for Racial Equity

Resisting White Supremacy: What's In It for White People? April 29.
Worship service at 11:00am followed by workshop from 1:00-3:00 pm
 Guest Speaker: Ken Wagner, President of Allies for Racial Equity

Words of Wisdom? is a ministry of the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Gwinnett. Each month, our community focuses on a particular theme. Through this blog, we invite you to explore these themes with us through daily reflections that may become for you a way of finding wisdom in your day. Or, they may lead you to your own reflections that deepen wisdom. Visit www.uucg.org.



UUCG Racial Justice Organizing Team Invites you to a weekend with Ken Wagner

Understanding the Culture of White Supremacy

April 28, 10:00 - 2:00

Facilitated by Ken Wagner, President of the UU Allies for Racial Equity

This workshop focuses on helping white people understand the racial component of their identity, and how to live with authenticity and integrity as a white person in a society grounded in white supremacy. It involves understanding the structural foundation of racism quite apart from the bigotry and discrimination that flows from individuals and how it exists almost independently of individual racist people. We will work through what the role of white people can or should be in racial justice movements, what our role in BLM might be, and what it means to be in solidarity with people of color and what it looks like to exhibit ally behavior. We'll discuss situations and responses, i.e. things we commonly hear but are sometimes frustrated in responding to in an effective fashion.

Resisting White Supremacy: What's In It for White People?

April 29. Worship service at 11:00am followed by workshop from 1:00-3:00 pm

Guest Speaker, Ken Wagner, UU Allies for Racial Equity

Service Leader, Rev. Jan Taddeo

How can I live with courage and integrity when the culture provides unearned benefits to me in my identities as white, male, heterosexual, able-bodied and middle class? How do I navigate the moral ambiguity if I live with some dominant identities and some targeted identities? Is it possible to find spiritual wholeness when those with those advantaged identities have perpetrated so much pain and suffering? How does one navigate the denial and guilt that attaches to those identities in order to stand in solidarity with those targeted for oppression? Explore these questions as Ken Wagner shares part of his journey in grappling with these questions. Followed by a workshop from 1:00 - 3:00 to explore these and other questions about the culture of white supremacy.



About Facilitator

Ken Wagner is former president of the Clara Barton District of the Unitarian Universalist Association and served for a while as the president of the District Presidents' Association. He currently serves on the UUA's Nominating Committee and was one of the founding members of the New England Region's Antiracism/Anti-oppression/Multicultural Transformation team called GRACE. He has also served for the last nine years on the Executive Steering Committee of the Allies for Racial Equity and is currently the President of that organization.

Ken frequently conducts Sunday services on racism and white supremacy at congregations throughout New England and is a frequent speaker on this subject at church and community events. Since 2014, he has facilitated 8-week workshops focused on resistance to white supremacy at more than a dozen congregations and community groups across New England.

UUCG supports HOPE



Our April-through-June Give-Away-The-Plate recipient is HOPE (Hispanic Organization Promoting Education). This organization's aim is to increase the graduation rate of Hispanic high school students in Georgia (at less than 75% lower than that of Asians, Whites, and Blacks). Founded in Gwinnett, and now serving kids from 44 schools in North-Central Georgia, the organization provides educational, leadership, and service opportunities in and after school. It holds workshops and conferences, gives information (e.g., about DACA and college), and provides opportunities for participants to develop social skills, cooperate, and grow.

GUST Presents "Getting the Hell Out" on April 9 at 7:00 pm



The threat of eternal punishment is a central part of religious indoctrination. The fear of hell can keep believers attached to their beliefs long after they seem irrational. It's also a fear that can stick with those who leave their belief. Let's get together and celebrate the real Good News: There is no Hell!

YARD SALE

YARD SALE

YARD SALE

YARD SALE

YARD SALE

YARD SALE!!!



Spring Rains, Spring Flowers, Spring Cleaning

Pulling out warm-weather clothes that no longer fit? No longer playing with last year's toys? Redecorating the house?

All of these wonderful spring activities can leave you with slightly used items that you no longer need. What to do?

Bag them and tag them and put them in the garage until September for the annual UUCG Yard Sale!! (Maybe you should clean out the garage first.)

All proceeds benefit UUCG and our work in the wider world

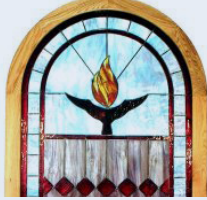


Serving with Grace: April News from the Board of Trustees

Dear UUCG friends, please plan on attending the April 22 town hall - we have many important and exciting things to discuss with you, including an offer for an easement to the cell tower and bylaws changes that will pave the way to policy-based governance. In March the board:

- Discussed an offer for an easement to the cell tower.
- Discussed changes to our bylaws that the policy task force has identified as necessary to move toward policy-based governance.
- Voted to close the discussion on our strategic plan and move forward with collating the ideas we have collected. Bill Benshoof will lead that effort, assisted by Barbara Stahnke.
- Decided to put forward the idea of changing our bylaws regarding proxy voting to allow one congregant to vote for two other members - "you plus two." This will also be discussed at the town hall meeting.

Worship Services, Sunday at 11:00am



Our services are led by our minister, the Rev. Jan Taddeo, and our wonderful team of Service Leaders and Worship Associates. This is our sacred time to gather in sacred space to recall our true selves, reflect on the meaning of our lives, and explore questions of ultimacy together. All ages are welcome in our worship services. A nursery offers childcare for youngest ages. Children aged 5-8 begin in service and are invited to explore together in a program space.

April Theme: Transformation. Contact RevTaddeo@uucg.org.

Faith Development for all Ages, Sundays at 10:00am



April Theme: Transformation

April 8: Spiritual Practices - Spirit Art: Connecting with the Divine. Tamara Liz

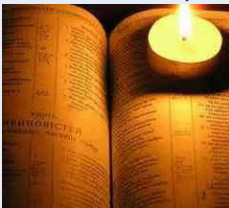
April 15: Faith in Action - Creating Societal Transformation. Karen Smith.

April 22: Book Discussion - "Daring Democracy". Jeff Lainez

April 29: Transformational Faith

Contact faithdevelopment@uucg.org.

The Seekers, Third Sundays at 12:30pm



The Seekers explore the great religious books and texts of the world. We have no prescribed theology and honor each person's spiritual path toward enlightenment, comfort and reason. We invite you to join us if you have an interest in theological writings and would like to share your views in an open, accepting environment. We meet the third Sunday of the month in the Laboratory. Grab a plate from the potluck and come on down. Contact: Debra Greenwood debra404@gmail.com.

The New Moon Women's Circle, select Fridays



A group meets monthly on the Friday closest to the New Moon at 6:30 pm.

This group is open to cis women, trans women, and nonbinary people who are comfortable in a space focused on the divine feminine. We share in a ceremony handed down from the Chumash tradition that involves several rounds of ritual including rattling, drumming, prayer, meditation, song, food, and eating. The purpose of this group is to celebrate the divine feminine and join our energy for healing of self, family, community, and earth. Contact: Paige at paigevamer@gmail.com.

Our Whole Lives (OWL) for Teens



Our Whole Lives helps participants make informed and responsible decisions about their sexual health and behavior. It equips participants with accurate, age-appropriate information and helps participants clarify their values, build interpersonal skills, and understand the spiritual, emotional, and social aspects of sexuality. OWL provides a safe and judgment free environment to ask questions and get answers leading to informed choices. Program rotates with Coming of Age. Classes began in January for the 2017-2018 program year.

Sylvan Sanctuary: 8 Gatherings a Year, 6:00-8:00pm with Magical Arts at 3:30



The Druids have a vital relationship with the Earth, celebrate the Sun and its sacred days, hear the call to the inner life, and are weaving a wisdom that is both personal and communal. Sylvan Sanctuary hosts 8 rituals a year at the four seasons, solstices and cross quarters of the year. On April 28, come and celebrate Beltane. All ages are invited to Magical Arts of the Crafty Pagan at 3:30pm before rituals.

Contact Bob Patrick at robert.patrick59@gmail.com for details.

Two Hands Sangha on Sundays at 6:00pm



The Two Hands Sangha Mindfulness and Meditation Community invites members and friends of UUCG to its Sunday evening meditation practice.

Visit www.twohandssangha.org to learn more.

Music & Art

Choir

Practice Tues. 7pm,

Warm-up Sun. 10:15am

If you enjoy singing with others, come practice on Tuesdays, then warm-up on Sundays before worship service.

Contact: Michael at mparker@uucg.org

Music Night

1st & 3rd Mondays, 6pm

People of all ages and music abilities practice, perform, and share musical gifts. Bring your music stand, instrument and music.

Contact: Barbara at bstahnke@comcast.net

Me2Orchestra

Thursdays at 7:00pm

Are you a musician who plays classical music and is interested in erasing the stigma surrounding mental illness? Add your name to the interested group by contacting Jen at 1blonde.violin@gmail.com

Jam Night

Gathering Interest

If you would like to see a UU house band or interested musicians gather to play music periodically, contact Contact: Ben at jamnight@uucg.org.

Art Gallery

Enjoy work of local artists. A portion of the proceeds benefit UUCG. Contact Diana Dice at dpdice@hotmail.com for purchases.

Connections

Join a group to build connections

Book Club, fourth Tuesdays at 7:00pm



All are welcome to a time of bonding, great discussion, and fellowship.
Contact bookclub@uucg.org.

Boy Scouts of America, Mondays at 7pm



UUCG hosts Boy Scout Troop 99 for boys in grades 6-11. The troop meets in the Playhouse & is selling Camp Cards April 15. Contact Maryjane Stout or Don Graff.

The Oak Grove Covenant of UU Pagans (CUUPS)



CUUPS meets about every 3 weeks on Saturdays with potluck dinner at 5pm and program at 7pm. Childcare provided. Contact CUUPS@uucg.org for more details.

Covenant Groups



Covenant Groups participants build community and listening skills as they delve deep into worship themes at 8 gatherings. Go to www.uucg.org and click on "Register" to sign-up for upcoming groups. Contact Carol at CovenantGroupTeam@uucg.org for details.

Gwinnett: Understanding Secular Truths (GUST), Second Mondays at 7:00pm



GUST supports atheism, skepticism, and secular humanism and works to encourage community and friendships. Visit <http://brights.meetup.com/295/> or contact Dylan at gust@uucg.org.

Men's Breakfast on Third Saturdays at 8:00am



The Men's Breakfast group gathers on third Saturdays at Eagles Landing Cafe and Grill at 3001 River Dr, Lawrenceville, GA 30044 at the corner of Oak Rd. and River Dr.

Contact Doug at mensbreakfast@uucg.org.

Potluck Lunch & Membership Classes, Third Sundays



UUCG's 3rd Sunday potluck lunch provides a great opportunity for food, fun, & fellowship. Please bring a generous quantity of something

yummy to share. Labeling dishes helps return items to their owner and helps welcome those with dietary concerns (vegan, vegetarian, gluten-free, etc.). Visitor Orientation (UU 101) & New Member (UU 102) classes are held on 3rd Sundays of even months. Select "Register for Events" at www.uucg.org or just come!

Gluten-Free Contest on April 15 during potluck!

SAGE (Seniors Aging with Grace and Enthusiasm)



If you're interested in special events with other UUCG seniors, contact the office at info@uucg.org to be added to the SAGE email group.

Spiral Scouts, 2nd Sundays at 12:30pm



Spiral Scouts is for all children aged 3-12 and meets on the 2nd Sunday each month at 12:30pm in the Garden.

Contact cuups@uucg.org for more.

Tai Chi on Thursdays from 7:00-8:30pm



All ages and levels are welcome to Tai Chi at UUCG. Wear comfortable clothes and flat soft shoes or sock feet work fine. Contact Rob at taichi@uucg.org.

Walkers Group



Walks are determined by participants. Contact Wally at walkers@uucg.org if you'd like to learn more about opportunities to walk with UUCG friends and be added to the email list.

Yoga on Wednesdays at 6:00pm



h a t h a y o g a

Yoga brings balance to the body, mind, and spirit through the use of breath and movement. This class is good for all ages and skill levels and includes pose modifications. The first class is free.

Thereafter, a 7 session pass is \$70, or drop-in is \$15 per session. JoAnn has been practicing yoga for eight years and is registered with Yoga Alliance. To register call JoAnn Weiss at 770-789-0785.

Youth Group



Discussion meetings take place on the First Sunday of each month during the 10:00 hour. Planning meetings are held on third Sundays, during potluck lunch after the Worship Service at 1:00pm.

Rev. Jan Taddeo, Parish Minister

RevTaddeo@uucg.org
Cell: 678-558-4834
Hours: Mon-Wed. 11am-9pm
Appointments scheduled at:
<https://revtaddeo.acuityscheduling.com/>

Building Open

Sunday: 9:30am-12:30pm
Tuesday: 10:00am-3:30pm
Friday: 10:00am-3:00pm
By Appointment: 770-717-7913

Theresa Waldrop president@uucg.org
Laura de Castro Ldecastro@uucg.org
Christiana McQuain cmcquain@uucg.org
Michael Parker mparker@uucg.org
Bryan Bishop, pianist

