



Sundays at UUCG

10:00am Faith Development

11:00am Worship Service

"When we put down ideas of what life should be like, we are free to

wholeheartedly say yes to our life as it is"

—Tara Brachwhat

September Theme: *Expectation*

September 1

Expectations of Change

Lydia Patrick, *Service Leader*

Miriam Patrick, *Worship Associate*

September 8

Expectations of Innocence

Annual Water Ceremony

Rev. Jan Taddeo, *Service Leader*

Lorena Griffin, *Worship Associate*

September 15

Expectations of Experience

Rev. Jan Taddeo, *Service Leader*

Bob Patrick, *Worship Associate*

3rd Sunday Potluck

UU 101 and UU 102

September 22

Facing Death with Life

Rev. Jan Taddeo, *Service Leader*

Daniel Bailey, *Worship Associate*

September 29

Expect a Miracle

Rev. Jan Taddeo, *Service Leader*

Bill Benschopf, *Worship Associate*

October 6

Universal Belonging:

Embraced by the Spirit of Life

Daniel Bailey, *Service Leader*

Victoria Fashakin, *Worship Associate*

*Plate contributions are shared equally
with Abundant LUUV*



Assisted Listening
Devices Available



Wheelchair Accessible



Social Justice "Imagining" Gathering



Saturday, Sept. 7

10am-1pm

We need your hearts, talents, and leadership to help our Social Justice programs and initiatives thrive. Please join us as we "Imagine" into being the future of our Social Justice Council.

Monday, September 9 7-9pm

Parody and Protest: Satan, Bob and the Spaghetti Monster

A look at religious parodies and satirical protests, including The Satanic Temple, The Church of the SubGenius, and the Flying Spaghetti Monster.



Sunday, September 15 2-5pm

Pickles and Jam A Waterbath Canning Workshop



With Sherree Bailey

\$10 Donation Requested

Register Online

We will learn how to preserve fruit as jam and make homemade pickles.

Junk in the Trunk-Fest

Saturday, Sept. 28 7am-3pm

Sign up today to sell out of your Car!

\$35 for a parking spot
\$10 for a table

Volunteers needed!

Organized by
Candice Bizzell

Contact admin@uucg.org

Tinyurl.com/Trunk-Registration



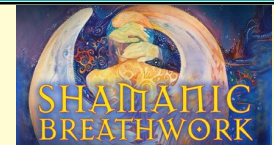
Water

Ceremony

September 8

Begin collecting water from your sacred places and holy moments

We will combine our sacred water and share its significance to us during a special Water Blessing Ceremony



Facilitated by Daniel Bailey

Saturday, Sep. 14 10:00am-1:00pm

Register Online

\$20 Love Offering Requested

No one turned away for lack of funds

Alban Elued: Autumn Equinox

Led by Bob Patrick

Saturday, September 21

3:30 Magical Arts
with the Crafty Pagan

6:00 Ritual

7:00 Potluck



Moving Chairs

We need a volunteer every Friday evening and Sunday afternoon to move chairs

into and out of the Sanctuary.

Sign up with this link:
<http://bit.ly/movechairs>



Visit www.uucg.org & select "Calendar of Events" for details
Send your news to Announcements at 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 becoming a radically welcoming sanctuary in a green space.
We foster spiritual growth as we joyfully nurture connections
and community within our wall and beyond.

Stewardship

Funding Our Vision

- **Annual Pledge.** Our shared ministry is funded by the generous gifts of members and friends. Gifts of 2% or more of net income help UUCG in becoming a strong and vital faith community.
- **Birthday Club.** Give a dollar for every year you're celebrating on your birthday to grow our Endowment Fund. Write "Birthday Club" on the memo line and place in the offering
- **Amazon.** UUCG will receive a percentage of your purchase when you use this link: https://smile.amazon.com/?_encoding=UTF8&tag=u030-20 and shop as you normally do! Bookmark this page!
- **Kroger 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 (NV919).
- **UUCG Sales.** Contributions for 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.

Faith in Action... *Living Our Values*



Yarns from the Heart Care Shawl Ministry, 1st & 3rd Wednesdays at 10:00am

Knitters, crocheters, quilters and other fiber artists gather to create prayer shawls, lap blankets, baby blankets, hats, scarves, and other gifts for members, friends, and the wider community. Join us! Contact us at yarnsfromtheheart@uucg.org.



The Racial Equity Organizing Team is seeking more people to support our work in becoming a more radically welcoming congregation for people of color, indigenous peoples, and people of all ethnicities. We host workshops, movies, and book discussions, and encourage participation in local interfaith events that promote racial equity. Contact Reverend Taddeo at revtaddeo@uucg.org.

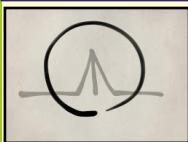


The Green Team: The Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Gwinnett has established a Green Team in order to help our congregation live more fully into our shared UU commitment to affirm and promote "respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part." We enter this work joyfully and with hope as we seek to model an ethic of care for our shared planet and all its inhabitants. Contact us at GreenTeam@uucg.org.



The Social Justice Council works on a range of issues, including immigrant rights, rights for the LGBT community, and environmental justice & awareness. The UUCG Social Justice council is open to all! Join us after the service on 1st Sundays every even month as we plan internal education, build partnerships, invite guest speakers, and provide active witness. We also laugh and have lots of fun together! Contact us at SocialJustice@uucg.org.

Spiritual Practices



Two Hands Sangha, Sundays at 6:00 pm

The Two Hands Sangha Mindfulness and Meditation Community invites members and friends of UUCG to its Sunday evening meditation practice. Love offerings are appreciated, but not required. Visit www.twohandsangha.org.



Tai Chi, Thursdays from 7:00—8:30 pm

All ages and levels are welcome. Wear comfortable clothes and flat soft shoes or sock feet. Contact Rob at taichi@uucg.org.



h a t h a y o g a

Yoga, Wednesdays, 5:45 pm—6:45pm

Yoga brings balance to the body, mind, and spirit through breath and movement. This class is for all ages and skill levels and includes pose modifications. First class is free, then 7-session pass is \$70, or drop-in for \$15. JoAnn Weiss has been practicing yoga for 8 years and is registered with Yoga Alliance. Email JoAnn at yoga@uucg.org to sign up.



Women's Spirituality Group, Friday September 13 at 7pm

Join us on the Friday closest to the full moon as we explore *Rise Up and Call Her Name* by Elizabeth Fisher, a UU women's group curriculum that leads us through geography and history to explore different Goddesses and Feminine Dieties. Integrate what you learn through hands on crafts, singing, drumming, and communing with other women through prayer, song, and fellowship. Email womensgroup@uucg.org for more info. Non-binary folks welcome.

Worship Services, Sundays at 11:00 am



Our services are led by our minister, the Reverend Jan Taddeo, and our inspiring team of Service Leaders and Worship Associates. This is our sacred time to gather in our cherished 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, and child care is available for the youngest if desired. Children 5 and over are encouraged to be with their parents in the service. There is a table of intention in the back of the service with activities related to the service for fidgeters. You may contact Reverend Jan Taddeo at RevTaddeo@uucg.org.

September 1 *Expectations of Change*

Waiting can be hard. You've heard the phrase - Be the change you want to see - let's talk about what that means. Baby steps.

Lydia Patrick, Service Leader **Miriam Patrick, Worship Associate**

September 8 *Expectations of Innocence* Annual Water Ceremony

What does water have to teach us about navigating the currents of life's expectations? Find a rock to cling to? Let go and let the flow carry us? How do our expectations influence our approach to life?

Rev. Jan Taddeo, Service Leader **Lorena Griffin, Worship Associate**

September 15 *Expectations of Experience*

How do our expectations for life shift as we grow more experienced with life? In these times of rising chaos, climate tragedy, and increased violence, hope is hard to find. To what shall we turn if not hope?

Rev. Jan Taddeo, Service Leader **Bob Patrick, Worship Associate**

September 22 *Facing Death With Life*

I often say to people that Unitarian Universalists are more concerned with how we live in the here and now than what happens to us when we die. But how do we approach the interconnection between life and death?

Rev. Jan Taddeo, Service Leader **Daniel Bailey, Worship Associate**

September 29 *Expect a Miracle*

In his "Conversations with God" series of books, Neale Donald Walsh invites the reader to expect an angel in every person they encounter. Can we also expect a miracle in every encounter with life?

Rev. Jan Taddeo, Service Leader **Bill Benshoof, Worship Associate**

October 6 *Universal Belonging: Embraced by the Spirit of Life*

Feeling, exploring, and celebrating our deepest experiences of belonging.

Daniel Bailey, Service Leader **Victoria Fashakin, Worship Associate**

Save the Date: Get to Know UU! UUCG Open House

Saturday, October 12 2:00pm-5:00pm

Including Activities for Children & Youth of All Ages!

We are hosting our annual open house to meet the people in our wider community and introduce them to Unitarian Universalism. Many volunteers are needed to offer radical welcome, information, and activities! In addition to spreading the word by posting and distributing flyers, and inviting your friends, co-workers, and neighbors, we need people to assist during the event in very specific ways. Please speak with Rev. Jan Taddeo for more information or sign up here: <http://bit.ly/uucgopenhouse> Friendship Sundays will occur October 6 and 13. Our services will be designed for newcomers. There will be more info soon.



Tending the Flame . . . Notes from Faith Development

As we enter the end of our summer season and prepare to embark on a new program year, we see this as a time of renewal – new opportunities, new practices, new ways to feed our spirits and to put our faith into action in the larger world. With this in mind, the UUCG Faith Development Team has some exciting programs planned for 2019-2020; opportunities to explore our faith in community, through programming and activities designed to offer a deeper dive into our chosen monthly themes.

Beginning September 8, the ten o'clock hour will continue to include Adult Faith Development Workshop & Discussions, and we will be adding Family Religious Exploration during the first hour! This will be a program for all ages to explore relationship with our annual theme, Webbing the Universe. Look to the bulletin boards in both the foyer and back hall for details on this upcoming programming, including our book selections for this year's bi-monthly Book Discussion sessions.

This congregation's support of the value of Faith Development is evident in the way you all prioritize funding in the annual budget and space for program offerings in the building. And in order to have a vibrant, thriving Faith Development program, we invite you to make it evident in the time that you offer in service to the program itself. Upcoming Faith Development opportunities for you to grow in service and spirit include giving your time to being:

- ◆ Multigenerational RE sessions leader
- ◆ Adult Spiritual Practices workshop facilitator
- ◆ Book Discussion Leader
- ◆ Childcare provider
- ◆ Various other capacities (assist with materials prep, supervise Intention Table activities, etc.)

We encourage you to consider stepping forward and adding program facilitation to your personal spiritual practice. Contact Christiana McQuain (cmcquain@uucg.org) with any questions, suggestions or inquiry into how you can contribute to making the 2019-2020 program year as meaningful as it can be for our entire community. How will you live your UU faith in the coming season?

With Grace and Gratitude,

Christiana and the UUCG Faith Development Team

Faith Development Programs

Sunday, September 8 at 10:00am: *Introduction to Expectation and Informational Session*

Sunday, September 15 at 10:00am: *Spiritual Practices*

Join yoga therapist Stacey Beth Shulman for a gentle yoga-based meditation and movement practice to connect to your spirit from the inside out. Suitable for all levels of experience, all ages, and all abilities.

Sunday, September 22 at 10:00am: *Faith in Action*

We will host a discussion about various ways to get and stay involved in the movement to work toward social justice in our community, our nation, and the world. How can you put your faith in action? How can your compassion make a difference?

Sunday, September 29 at 10:00am: *Video Presentation and Discussion*

Third Thursdays from 5-7pm: *Cooking with Kids* beginning in October

Family Game Nights one Friday a month beginning in October

May 17, 2020: *Spring BarbeQUe*

Please register all ages for Faith Development by filling out a form available in the foyer or going to this link: <https://form.jotform.com/Syun/fdregistration>



Save the Date for Trunk or Treat

Saturday, October 25 Setup begins at 5:00 pm, event from 5:30pm– 8:00pm



This event is a great way for UUCG families from around the county to celebrate Halloween together, and it is also an outreach to the local community, as all are invited to participate. The Faith Development Team needs your help to make this event a success. All UUCGers are invited to decorate a trunk and come take part in greeting the children and handing out treats. If you are in leadership at UUCG, we encourage you to get together with your Team or Committee and create a Trunk themed to your group's mission - or just something fun!

There will be games, prizes and all manner of assorted fun. So please mark your calendar and plan to join us. Questions? E-mail faithdevelopment@uucg.org, or talk to Christiana McQuain.

Social Justice “Imagining” Gathering

Saturday, September 7, 10:00am - 1:00pm

Everyone is invited to join us as we explore ways we can structure our efforts to equip and empower our various teams to live more fully into our vision, and how we continue to grow leadership capacity to ensure continued momentum with our programs and initiatives.

Please bring your own light lunch, and your curiosity and creativity for imagining our ministries of compassion within and beyond our walls



89 Backpacks Donated to Corley Elementary



Thanks to each and every one of you for making this year’s backpack drive a success. UUCG collected 89 backpacks! They were delivered to the school on this past Friday. This year’s collection surpassed last year’s contribution thanks to the generosity of this wonderful community. The school is very grateful for the backpacks as well as the school supplies donated (with no prompting!)

Gender Neutral Restrooms

A few weeks ago, UUCG had a leak in the men’s restroom. In order to get to the pipes, we had to remove the urinal and cut through the drywall. The leak was repaired quickly, but before repairing the wall and replacing the urinal, it occurred to the board that this may be a good time to consider making the change to gender neutral restrooms. The transition to gender neutral restrooms has received broad support in previous congregational visioning and planning gatherings.

Currently, people of any gender are invited to use whichever restroom they choose, but most still choose a binary option. If we are to go truly gender neutral, it would mean a change, and so we are asking for opinions and concerns, plus making ourselves available to answer questions before we make a decision about how to move forward.

The question is not only about *whether* to make both restrooms gender neutral, but also about *how* to make both restrooms gender neutral. Questions the board is discussing ... do we reinstall the urinal at all? (urinals are eco-friendly, and there are some models that are even more so) If so, do we enclose it in a stall? Do stalls need to be extended to the floor?

Gender neutral restrooms are becoming common in new construction in Europe. Many universities are also making the shift. As you consider this issue, think deeply about why you feel the way you do. Board members are available for your questions, both after the service and via email: board@uucg.org.

Let’s talk. - Lorena Griffin, Vice President of the Board



Nametags, Greeters, New Member Gathering



Sharon Yun

After attending UU 101 you get a temporary nametag that can be found on our nametag bulletin board in the hallway. When you become a member, you get a permanent nametag that is kept in the same place. Sometimes these tags are worn home and become misplaced. Please help us be welcoming by bringing your nametag back and wearing it during services, then putting it back on the bulletin board.

If you need a replacement, please make your request by September 7 so that the membership committee can have a new nametag made for you. The cost is \$6 which you can put in the collection plate with a note of what it is for, or place in the membership mailbox in the church office. Also, you may email membership@uucg.org your request and you have the option to pay paypal@uucg.org through Paypal. Please note what the payment is for.

We need more greeters for Sunday Mornings. Please contact Katrina Yurko at membership@uucg.org if interested.

Membership will be planning a New Member Social for this fall season. Be on the look out for more info!

Flush Flash, Fundraising and Facilities by Rev. Jan Taddeo

Sewer Project Update:

Since our last update in the GNUUS, the congregation has held a Town Hall meeting and a Congregational Meeting. The vote was overwhelmingly in favor of increasing our funding for the project from \$50,000 to \$65,000, with one abstention. We have a contractor ready to go, and we have a team of dedicated volunteers who are starting their work to raise the funds we need to pay the contractor. What we don't have is the signed temporary construction easement from the company that owns Park 156 Apartments. We've been working since May 2nd to receive this, and we keep encountering various questions, requests, and delays from the corporate office. Our Engineer has all the paperwork and checks ready to take to the county once that easement is in hand. The county can take up to two weeks to process the paperwork necessary to issue the construction permit. When we have the permit in hand, and the contractor is ready to begin, then construction and inspection can take one to three weeks. We, the leadership team working on this process, are still confident that this can be done by the end of September; and, we are at the mercy of the landowners next door to make that possible.



Funding the Sewer Project:

In the meantime, we need to raise the money to pay the contractor! We have just over \$11,000 in our Sewer Project Fund thanks to the \$25,000 loan from our Endowment Fund (don't forget to write your Birthday Check to the fund this year!), and \$3,750 in contributions received from members. We've paid our engineer for services through August 23, and we have cut all the checks for the County permits and fees. We will need to raise at least \$25,000 by the end of September to make sure we have funds to pay for services rendered. Although we have some cash available in our Contingency Fund, those funds are in reserves to cover possible revenue shortfalls for our operating funds. If we borrow from that fund in September it will need to be replaced by the end of October. Look for more information coming soon from our Fundraising Team and please consider how you might offer a generous gift to support this foundational project. Keep in mind that once we are fully connected to the sewer system, there are so many more possibilities for the future of our facilities ... imagine a fellowship hall, more permanent storage, a couple more rooms for activities, or a goat farm! (Just kidding on that last one ... or am I?)

Turning Sun School and Sharing Space

Some have been curious about how Turning Sun is doing as we await the completion of this project. They are currently operating under a provisional license that limits their hours and their enrollment. There are eight children currently registered, and they have many on the waiting list awaiting their expanded hours, and greater age range capacity. There are now three staff persons at Turning Sun, in addition to Heather Adams, we welcome Kim, Shelby and Sylvan (also a UUCG staff person) to our community. Please offer them all a very warm welcome whenever you see them! They are fabulous people and they love UUs!! Keep an eye out for parents of the students as well ... we want them to experience the radical welcome of UUCG as well.

As we discussed long ago at our own Hall meeting in January, there have been many changes to our facilities, inside and out. Some changes are subtle and easy to take in ... like new flooring and fresh paint. Some are a little harder to adjust to, like major changes to the tot lot playground, and fencing all around. Even though we knew this was coming, we didn't know exactly what it would look like when it was implemented. The children seem to love the new play area - yay! We are working on ideas to move some of the items that were removed from the tot lot over to the larger playground and will get some new playground quality mulch for volunteers to spread there at our next *Property Work Day* September 14 from 9am-2pm.

Sharing space has also presented some new considerations for how we use our space. I am so grateful for the many volunteers who have stepped forward to move chairs back and forth each week, (sign up at <http://bit.ly/movechairs>) and for those who assist our staff with transitioning the Garden and Castle rooms each week. We are all being more mindful of leaving our spaces ready for the next group that will use the rooms. Before long we'll feel the rhythm of a new normal.



Visioning and Fundraising for Our Dreams

Vision: *We have a vision for becoming a welcoming congregation in a green space fostering connections within our walls and beyond.*

Purpose: To raise funds to transform and expand our space and further our work as a liberal faith community

We have a designated reserve account where all funds raised for the "Visioning **and Fundraising** for Our Dreams" will be placed. The long term need is to establish a strong capital fund for our dreams of improved facilities to last into the future. However, our immediate need is for \$25,000 to help cover the cost for the structural foundation work on our church property, (i.e. the sewer) by the end of September. **This sewer work is a necessity for us to move forward in transforming and expanding our space.** We already have an opening anonymous contribution of \$2,000. We need you to determine what additional funds, beyond your regular yearly pledge, that you can contribute **by the end of September** to help us raise this \$25,000.

Please consider making your contribution for this fund by check, cash, or by our church's PayPal account, uucg@paypal.com, before the end of September.

We will let you know more about the dreams and plans **that have already been discussed and planned through congregational input over the last several years.**

Much light and love,

Barbara Stahnke, Jerrold Johnson, and Peggy Averyt

Boy Scout Troop Update: A Sad *Sayonara*

Maryjane Stout, Don Graff



Three years ago, UUCG chartered the first Boy Scouts of America troop affiliated with a UU congregation in the US in more than 20 years. Sadly, that chapter of our history is closing. There are several reasons.

The troop leadership profile doesn't match the need. Most troops are run by parents – both the scoutmasters running the meetings and activities as well as the committee members running the

administrative side. Despite repeated pleas, current parents have not stepped up. We have had help, but it has been insufficient. We are exhausted and simply don't have the time.

We have been unable to sustain membership. Each October we get a crop of new boys and by January the attrition rate is greater than 50 percent. Boys today, at least in our area, are less interested in camping and hiking than in Fortnite and the like. Their parents push them into Scouting, hoping it will catch on, but it doesn't seem to. The other source of membership, Cub Scouts growing up to become Boy Scouts, hasn't panned out either, despite recruitment efforts.

We were a little misled when UUCG founded the troop. We were told that UUCG need only provide meeting and a little storage space. By providing initial skeletal leadership, we thought we were in excellent shape. We've since learned that most charter organizations also provide the initial boy membership and round out the many leaders needed with their parents. Today, UUCG simply doesn't have the membership profile to permit this.

We are encouraging our seven troop members not to leave Scouting, but to select and join another troop. They want to do that as a group. They will therefore be "troop shopping" together and we are shepherding that effort, with our knowledge of nearby troops that might be the best fit.

While we are sad, we are also proud to have introduced this group of boys to Boy Scouting and feel that we have, to some extent, introduced UUCG and our UU values to some members of our community we would not have otherwise reached.

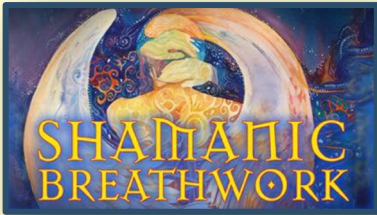
A troop decommissioning event will be held on September 30 at 7:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary.

Community FUNdraisers

Below are our current fundraisers. You may create an event anytime you'd like. Email admin@uucg.org or speak to Sharon Yun to schedule an event. Please describe the event in detail and give the time, place, and requested donation amount. Register for events online. You may pay in advance at paypal@uucg.org.

Saturday, September 14 10am-1pm Shamanic Breathwork™ and Heart Centered Breathing workshop

Shamanic Breathwork is a powerful altered state process to connect with healing archetypes, inner shamans and healers, ancestors, spirits and divinity. We will establish sacred space through intention and sacred ceremony; then use the power of deep connected breathing and heart focus to enter an altered state in which we can explore and experience a journey to reconnect with our own spirits, heal our shadows, experience unconditional love, and taste what wholeness and inspired living are. Donation of \$20 or more requested. No one turned away for lack of funds. Led by Daniel Bailey. Sharon Yun will be assisting.



Sunday, October 20 1-3pm *Finger Knitting Class for Children*
with Janet Hazzard. For ages 6+. \$10 donation

Junk in the Trunk Fest

September 28

7am-3pm



Clean out your closets, your basement, and your garage. Turn your junk into another person's treasure! Sign up today. Volunteers are needed to set up the night before and break down after the event. We also need people to take turns at the UUCG information table. Volunteers are also needed to direct parking lot traffic. Please speak to Candice Bizzell or email info@uucg.org if you are able to volunteer or if you'd like more info.

Or, just come and shop for treasures on the cheap! You will be supporting UUCG and your community and helping the environment by reducing production and pollution.

A parking spot is \$35. A table is \$10. To register, please go to: Tinyurl.com/Trunk-Registration.

You may keep whatever money you make or choose to donate it all or a portion of it to UUCG. Please pick up some fliers at UUCG to post on community boards and give to friends. Also please share the Facebook event with your friends:

<http://bit.ly/uucgjunkinthetrunk>

Holiday Artisan Fair

November 17

12:15pm-3:15pm

Call for Artisans

Lorena Griffin is looking for all kinds of artisans to sell at our annual Holiday Artisan Fair. In the past we have had woodworkers, blacksmiths, stitchers, quilters, crocheters, knitters, weavers, felters, soap makers, photographers, paper crafters, collage makers, jewelry makers, and more. If you know someone who might want to rent a table to sell their work, have them contact Lorena Griffin at holidayfair@uucg.org or register online: <https://form.jotform.com/Syun/registration>.

More info coming soon. Volunteers are needed before and during the event.



Give Away the Plate Donations

Give Away the Plate is our community outreach program that chooses a non-profit every three months to donate half of our plate collection to. Thanks to your generous donations this year we have raised the following for these amazing non-profits:

3rd Quarter: Abundant LUUV: \$796.26 — continuing through October

2nd Quarter: UU Trauma Response: \$782.50

1st Quarter: Planned PETHood: \$1,021.85

Webbing the Universe

by Rev. Jan Taddeo

This year's overarching theme for our shared ministry emerged from #37 in our hymnal "Singing the Living Tradition" second verse: *"God who webs the universe with amazing mysteries, make glad my fragile soul so I can see life whole and bring hope to all on earth."* This hymn speaks to bringing joy, hope, and peace to the earth. A lovely trilogy of values, synonymous in many with our mission: Curiosity. Courage. Compassion.

Verse 1: *"God who fills the universe from the atom to the stars, make firm my changeful heart so I may do my part and bring joy to all the earth."* As we explore our delicious monthly themes under the image of "webbing the universe" I hope you are inspired to see the ways you can and do connect within the web of congregational life and how you can joyfully nurture connections within our walls and beyond. I hope every person who values and loves this precious community will seek ways to bring joy for self and others.

On August 24th our Board of Trustees spent the day exploring and imagining a shared vision for our ministry together this year, as well as conversations we might have inspired by open questions related to living into our bold vision as a radically welcoming sanctuary in a green space.

Our vision of ministry for 2019-2020 includes expanding our circles of care and compassion, continuing to grow our congregation through our commitment to radical welcome, and casting our web wider to nurture connections with our community partners and develop new interfaith connections in the community.

This year I'll create a new model for a Shared Ministry Council with volunteers to partner with me and our staff to grow more deeply into our bold congregational vision and this vision of ministry for this program year.

Verse 3: *"God who keeps the universe by the truths of living love, make strong that love in me so I can set it free and bring peace to all on earth."* May you find ways to "live love" each day.

UUCG Endowment Fund Donors

Thanks to all our recent donors to the "Birthday Club" who celebrated their birthday by making a contribution to The UUCG Endowment Fund. Wishing another good year to **Steve Smith, The Millette Family, Diana Dice, Don Graff, Barbara Stahnke, Michelle Reed, Sue-Ann Soloway, Thomas Yun, and Doug Beers.**



These donations are the primary stewardship source of funds which has allowed our endowment to grow. We are very pleased to have been able to provide a \$25,000 loan to help with the sewer connection project.

Please make a contribution in the amount of your birthday when it comes around this year and Thank You in advance! You may note "Birthday Club" on a check and place it in the collection plate or in the mailbox in the office labeled Endowment, or give it to the Endowment Fund Board Director Doug Beers. Doug can be reached at endowment@uucg.org. For more info about other ways you can donate, please visit www.uucg.org/connection/donate/finances/uucg-endowment-fund. Thank you for supporting UUCG.

Music & Art

Choir

Rehearsal Tuesdays,

7:00 pm

Warm-up, Sundays,

10:15 am

If you enjoy singing with others, drop in on Tuesday night for rehearsal and then warm-up with the choir on Sunday before the worship service. Contact our Choir Director, Michael Parker, at mparker@uucg.org.

Music Night

1st & 3rd Mondays, 6:00pm

People of all ages and music abilities practice, perform, and share musical gifts. Bring your music stand, instrument and music. Contact Barbara at musiconight@uucg.org

Jam Night

If you would like to see a UU House Band or interested musicians gather to play rock and folk rock periodically, contact Ben at jamnight@uucg.org.

Art Gallery

Enjoy the beautiful selections of art on display in our sanctuary and foyer, all created by local artists. A portion of the proceeds of art sales benefits UUCG. Contact Diana Dice at prattdice@gmail.com.



This QR Code will take you to our unique Amazon Smiles link so you can support UUCG as you shop!

Nurturing Connections

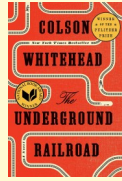
Book Club, 4th Wednesdays at 7:00 pm

September 25: *Underground Railroad*

by Colson Whitehead

All are welcome to a time of bonding, lively discussion, and building friendships.

Contact bookclub@uucg.org.



Spiral Scouts, 2nd Sundays from 12:30 pm-2:30pm

For children ages 3-12 and their families, this earth-based scout program encourages young people to co-create their programs. Meet in the Treehouse after the worship service. Healthy snacks provided. Contact CUUPS@uucg.org.

The Oak Grove Covenant of UU Pagans (CUUPS)



CUUPS meets twice a month to share different practices and rituals. On September 7 there will be a workshop on Rites of Passages from 5-9pm. On September 21 there will be Magical Arts with the Crafty Pagan at 3:30 with an

Autumn themed craft. Child care is provided if requested by registering online at least a week in advance. Contact CUUPS@uucg.org for more details. Also visit their Facebook page and group.

UU 101 and 102 is September 15



Join us after the service for the UU101 Visitor Orientation in the Library. To learn about the path to membership come to the Pastor's Parlor for our UU 102 program. Childcare provided. Please register online ahead of time for childcare.

SAGE (Seniors Aging with Grace and Enthusiasm)

Join other UUCG seniors for special events. Contact info@uucg.org to be added to the SAGE email group.



Belief Exploration

We explore the sources of world faith traditions. We have no prescribed theology and honor each person's spiritual path toward enlightenment and reason. We invite you to join us if you have an interest in theological writings and would like to learn and share your views in

an open, accepting environment. We meet after the worship service on the second Sunday of each month in the Laboratory. Speak to Carol Richardson or email beliefexplorers@uucg.org if interested.



Sylvan Sanctuary: Rituals for the 8 Sun Stations



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 has been a grove for 10 years and is led by Bob Patrick, a founding Druid. Childcare is provided if requested at least a week in advance. Sylvan Sanctuary welcomes all who are interested to a Fall Equinox ritual at 6:00pm on September 21. Contact sylvan@uucg.org for more info.



Gwinnett: Understanding Secular Truths (GUST)

2nd Mondays at 7:00 pm in the Sanctuary

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



Potluck Lunch, 3rd Sundays

Our 3rd Sunday potluck lunch is a great opportunity for food, fun, and friendship. Bring a generous quantity of a favorite recipe to share. Label dishes with information for special diets (ex: vegan, vegetarian, gluten-free, nuts)



Walkers Group

Walks are planned by group participants. Contact Wally at walkers@uucg.org to learn more about upcoming walks with UUCG friends and to be added to the group's e-mail list. Open to all walks of life.



Property Work Day September 14 9am-2pm

Bring out your clippers, weed-eaters, weed-dragons, pitchforks and rakes for a day of cleaning up our front and side yard and spreading mulch. Some light breakfast food will be available and a giant cooler of ice water. Bring your own lunch and snacks and a water bottle. Please Register Online to let us know if you are coming!



Rev. Jan Taddeo, Parish Minister

RevTaddeo@uucg.org
Cell: 678-558-48434
Appointments scheduled at:
revtaddeo.acuityscheduling.com

Building Open

Sunday 9:30-12:30
Tuesday 10:00-2:30
Friday 10:00-2:30
or by appointment
770-717-7913

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