

Loving Each Other Up

Bill Benshoof, Worship Leader

Britt Parris, Worship Associate

Rev. Nancy Palmer Jones, Minister

Christiana Fernandez-McQuain, Coordinator of Family Ministries

Michael & Rebecca Parker, Choir Directors

Stephen Pyle, Pianist

Sunday, August 31st, 2025

Prelude	<i>Draw the Circle Wide</i>	Light/Miller
Gathering Music #347	<i>Gather the Spirit</i>	Jim Scott
Welcome and Centering		Bill Benshoof
Call to Worship	<i>Many Hopes in our Hearts</i>	Rebekah Savage
Chalice Lighting	<i>Shapes/Beings of Light</i>	Britt Parris/Bill Benshoof
Wonder Box Wisdom	<i>I Am Love Susan Verde</i>	Art: Peter H. Reynolds
Hymn #1058	<i>Be Ours a Religion</i>	Parker/Benjamin
Reading/Reflection	<i>Endlessly Falling in Love</i>	Britt Parris
Anthem	<i>Let This Be A House of Peace</i>	Jim Scott
Homily	<i>Loving Each Other Up</i>	Bill Benshoof
Music for Reflection	<i>Draw the Circle Wide (reprise)</i>	Light/Miller
Meditation/Hymn #1002	<i>Comfort Me</i>	Shari Woodbury
Sharing Our Gifts	Offering shared with <i>Mosaic Georgia</i>	
Offertory	<i>How Could Anyone</i>	Libby Roderick
Gratitudes/Call to Connection		Bill Benshoof
Hymn #1064	<i>Blue Boat Home</i>	Peter Mayer/ Roland Hugh Prichard
Closing Words	<i>...each other...</i>	Elisabeth Lerner MacLay
Extinguishing Our Chalice		Elizabeth Selle Jones (adapted)

+Our plate is shared 50/50 with the quarterly plate recipient and UUCG.
Please make checks payable to UUCG and indicate on the memo line if the check is for your
annual pledge contribution or today's plate recipient



UUCG Beyond Sunday Morning

Events This Week

* in-person + online ~ off-site

- *+ **Today at 12:30pm:** *No Programming*
- * Mon., Sep. 1 at 6:30pm: *Canceled-Alphabet SoUP*
- ~ Tue., Sep. 2 at 7:00pm: *Choir Rehearsal*
- + Wed., Sep. 3 at 10:00am: *Yarns from the Heart*
- * Thur., Sep. 4 at 6:30pm: *Music Night*
- * Fri., Sep. 5 at 6:30pm: *Game Night*

No Programming

There will be no Faith Formation Hour programming this weekend. Please check the UUCG Website's Events Calendar page for information about future Faith Formation Hour events.

How Can You Lift Up Your Community?

- Volunteer at community centers
- Support local businesses
- Pick up trash
- Collect/donate non-perishable foods
- Donate blood
- Help your neighbors
- Be a mentor
- Host/donate to fundraising events
- Plant gardens/greenery where possible
- Collect/donate clothing for the needy
- Contact reps about local issue
- Start/donate to a little free library

UU Values

As Unitarian Universalists, we draw from our heritages of freedom, reason, hope, and courage, building six values with Love at the center. Inseparable from one another, these shared values are:

Interdependence: We honor the interdependent web of all existence.

Pluralism: We celebrate that we are all sacred beings, diverse in culture, experience, and theology.

Justice: We work to be diverse multicultural Beloved Communities where all thrive.

Transformation: We adapt to the changing world.

Generosity: We cultivate a spirit of gratitude and hope.

Equity: We declare that every person is inherently worthy and has the right to flourish with dignity, love, and compassion.



In Her Own Words.

One of my favorite things during seminary was the pulpit supply I did to earn a little extra cash. I traveled up and down the Prairie Star District (now part of the MidAmerica Region) visiting Unitarian Universalist congregations: small, medium and even a few large; lay-led and minister-led. All told, I have led worship in about 40 congregations in over 10 states.

Many times, after the service, some subset of the congregation and I would sit down to lunch together. I would engage them in conversation around what it was like to embody Unitarian Universalism in their town. What were their challenges? What were their successes? As I listened to them, I grew a deep appreciation for how our faith is incarnated in different locales. And I fell in love with almost all of the congregations I visited.

[...] Over the past few years, I have felt my vocation shifting. The religious landscape has changed in this country. Attendance at church is down, giving is down in many congregations, and it is often difficult to find volunteers. There is a saying that congregations are still ideally structured for church life in the 1950s, but this reality is long gone. One question now drives me: how do our Unitarian Universalist congregations continue to best embody our faith and adapt to these changes?

by Rev. Dawn Skjei Cooley from www.uua.org