

Begin Again

Lydia Patrick, Worship Leader

Britt Parris, Worship Associate

Rev. Nancy Palmer Jones, Minister

Christiana Fernandez-McQuain, Coordinator of Family Ministries

Sweet MUusic Band

Sunday, September 26, 2026

Prelude	<i>Loosen / I'm Not Alone</i>	Aly Halpert / Aly Halpert & Anat Hochberg
Singing #188	<i>Come, Come, Whoever You Are</i>	Rumi / Lynn Ungar
Welcome and Centering		
Call to Worship and Chalice Lighting	<i>Space for New Beginnings</i>	Rev. Scott Tayler
Wonder Box Wisdom	<i>Graduation Class of 2026</i>	Mo Willems
Reflection\Reading	<i>For a New Beginning</i>	Britt P
Singing\SOL	<i>This Boat</i>	Laura Zucker
Reflection	<i>Memaw</i>	Bob P
Anthem	<i>There's a River Flowin' in My Soul</i> <i>Sweet MUusic</i>	
Homily	<i>Begin Again...What We Do Matters</i>	Lydia P
Music Reflection	<i>Loosen</i>	Aly Halpert
Prayer and Meditation	<i>May We Trust the Invisible Work</i>	Michelle Collins
Sharing Our Gifts	Offering shared with <i>Worthy Now Prison Ministry</i>	
Offertory	<i>I Can See Clearly Now</i>	Johnny Nash
Gratitudes		
Call to Connection		
Singing\SOL	<i>Lead With Love</i>	Melonie Demore
Closing Words	<i>Take This As An Invitation</i>	Birch Cue
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:** *"Good Trouble"*
- * **Today at 6:30pm:** *Green Space Nature Activity*
- *+ **Today at 3:00pm:** *Celebration of Life*
- * **Tue, Sep 29 at 7:00pm:** *Choir Rehearsal*
- * **Sat, Oct 3 at 8:00am:** *Trunk Treasures and Trades*
- * **Sat, Oct 3 at 10:00am:** *Tending Our Grounds*

Faith Formation Hour

"Good Trouble"

Data Centers, Flock, AI, Energy

All are on the ballot!

Join us to learn about these issues and more so you can make an informed vote in November.

Facilitated by Terry Welsher

Beginnings Aren't Always Certain

by Jason Pfeffer

There are times when we greet beginnings with enthusiasm and excitement. Visiting someplace new for the first time. Trying out a brand new recipe. Getting that suede coat with the fringe along the sleeves and back.

Sometimes a new beginning can seem like a good idea at the time, only to later fill us with a sense of regret. Like getting that suede coat with the fringe along the sleeves and back.

Then there are beginnings we agree to for someone else. This was the case with my introduction to the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Gwinnett. My wife, Kim, felt we were lacking a community here in our new Georgia home. With a little research, she discovered UUCG online and thought this sounded like something we should check out. I, on the other hand, was a tad reluctant. Organized religion was not something I subscribed to.

My love for my wife and her need for connection won out over my hesitance, and we attended our first Sunday service. I was not sold, though Kim immediately loved it. I affectionately referred to it as "hippy church". At one of our early services, a group of people sat in a circle in the middle of the Sanctuary to seek out physical contact from others. This filled me with sympathetic anxiety, as I dreaded the thought I might one day be expected to do that. Were we really going to make these "our people"?

But what I merely just stuck through to support Kim eventually began to speak to me. There was no preaching of the precarious fate my soul faced. Everyone was welcoming and supportive of one another. The lack of judgement regarding how we chose to live our life, or that we didn't practice any faith in particular, made me feel comfortable and able to open up. This "hippy church" wasn't so bad, after all.

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.



Each Sunrise is a Chance for a New Beginning

