



UUMAN TIMES

Unitarian Universalist Metro Atlanta North

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January 2019

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Adult Enrichment at UUMAN

The Adult Enrichment Committee will be continuing its series of educational courses into the spring semester. Most of the courses will run from 12 Noon –

1PM in the Sanctuary most Sundays. **New this spring!** A few single-session classes will be offered from 9-10AM. Childcare will be available in the nursery for all classes.

The schedule for the spring courses will be as follows:

Faith Forward Inquirers Series

Dates: Sundays, January 13 – March 3

Time/Location: 12-1PM; UUMAN Sanctuary

Facilitated By: Dave Dunn

Course Description: Rediscover our UU and liberal religious roots through a literary survey of the writings of prominent Unitarian and Universalists from the 16th – 21st centuries. How did we first part ways with the Catholic Church and the Protestant reformers? What is significant about the year 1805 for Unitarians? Who were Channing and Emerson? What was Theodore Parker’s heresy? How did Humanism shape 20th century Unitarianism? What’s next for UUism. This survey is based on the writings contained in the book “The Epic of Unitarianism” edited by David Parke.

Traditional Witchcraft and Paganism

Dates: March 17, 24, 31; April 7

Time/Location: 12-1PM; UUMAN Sanctuary

Facilitated By: Colin Decker

Course Description: This course is a brief introduction to modern paganism and witchcraft. We will cover the various types of pagan practices Wicca

versus witchcraft and other practices. Discussions will include in depth explanations of the codes and ethics of the craft, the sabbats, rituals and moons. We will go over the hierarchy and protocol and tools of a modern day coven and examine of the gods, goddesses and powers called upon in the traditional craft.

Is This the Last Century?

Dates: April 21, 28; May 5, 12

Time/Location: 12-1PM; UUMAN Sanctuary

Facilitated By: Gus Hadorn, Patrick Thompson & other special guests

Course Description: Five major topics including:

- **This Good Earth**—the garden given, the garden created
- **A Very Inconvenient Truth**—the state of our nest
- **Farmers, Poets and Lovers**-- voices of elders: Henry David Thoreau, John Muir, Aldo Leopold, Rachel Carson, Edward Abbey, Wendell Berry, E. O. Wilson & Jane Goodall
- **What We Cannot do Alone:** Government & Citizen Warriors--The role government has, can and must play. Building community and ourselves into what we must become.
- **The Paradigm Shift Required and how to do it**—considering ideas from Michael Pollan, Thomas Freedman and others.

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Adult Enrichment at UUMAN

UUMAN Book Discussion Series

Dates: 3rd Sunday of the month, January 20, February 17, March 17, April 21

Time/Location: 9-10AM; Discovery Hall (one of the two back rooms)

Facilitated By: Dave Dunn & Lyn May

Course Description: Thematic discussions of literary works relevant to our faith and our world.

- **January 20:** Just Mercy by Bryan Stevenson
- **February 17:** Muhammad – A Prophet for Our Time by Karen Armstrong
- **March 17:** Parable of the Sower and Parable of the Talents by Octavia Butler
- **April 21:** To Be Determined

Soulmatters Sharing Circle

Dates: 1st Sunday of the month, February 3, March 3, April 7, May 5

Time/Location: 9-10AM; Discovery Hall (one of the two back rooms)

Facilitated By: Dave Dunn & Guests

Course Description: Discussion of the Soulmatters monthly themes. Soulmatters content will be made available monthly to participants <https://www.soulmatterssharingcircle.com/>

- **February 3:** Trust
- **March 3:** Journey
- **April 7:** Wholeness
- **May 5:** Curiosity

I hope you will get a chance to attend some of these courses.

I think you will find them rewarding!

Take care,

Dave

Visioning Workshop

On December 8, 2 members from the UUA Southern Region facilitated a Visioning Workshop at UUMAN. Many members participated and contributed to the workshop, which was intended as a first step towards defining the vision for UUMAN relative to our core values. An excellent day all around and much thanks to those who participated!

Recognizing that not all members were able to attend the December 8 session, Board President Elizabeth Rohan met with the Committee on Shared Ministry to discuss additional Visioning opportunities. As a result, there will be two additional meetings on January 6 after service and Saturday, February 9 from 9:00-11:00 a.m. (only need to attend one as the content will be the same in both sessions). In addition, Circle 7 suppers will reinforce the concepts resulting from the Visioning process.

Please mark your calendars accordingly, as we are excited to involve as many members as possible to insure all voices are heard and considered as we move forward on this exciting journey! Junior and senior youth are also invited to these sessions.

If you plan to attend one of the sessions, please use SignUp Genius. The link is provided here:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/805084AAEAF2CAB9-valuesmissionvis>

See you there!

—UUMAN Board of Trustees

Interfaith Worship and Potluck Meal

In an effort to get to know one another better, on Sunday, January 27 at 5:00 PM at Roswell Community Masjid, UUMAN, Temple Beth Tikvah, and Roswell Community Masjid will be having a joint worship service and potluck. Dave Dunn, along with Imam Arshad and Rabbi Alex, will be planning the worship portion of the event. Please plan to attend, if you can. For questions please contact Carla Kapeskas at crkapeskas@gmail.com.

Register here: <http://tiny.cc/interfaithmeal>



**Interfaith Worship and Potluck
Meal**

27TH JANUARY 2019
5pm-7pm

**TABLE FOR 1:
A FEAST FOR
ALL**

Come join us for an interfaith potluck celebration:

- Bring a dish to share, enough for 8 people
- Consider making a dish from a family recipe or one that ties with your heritage
- List all the ingredients in your dish on a notecard and bring with you
- Please make sure that the ingredients don't include pork, alcohol or shellfish
- Youth 12+ are welcome to join
- Please RSVP by 20th Jan 2019

Register here:
<http://tiny.cc/interfaithmeal>

**Participating
Congregations:**
**UUMAN, Emerson UU, Temple
Beth Tikvah and RCM**

Address:
Roswell Community Masjid, 345 Market Place, Roswell 30075



Possibility and Faith

Possibility is the sense that something could happen, and it is the ministry theme for the month of January. I can imagine why Possibility was chosen for the first month of a new year; a month which may traditionally begin with planning, wishing, and a mind open to possibility. I love the idea of living in a mindset of possibility. Even a new day can bring many surprises that I never would have even thought were possibilities! Realistically, though I know certain things are not likely to happen. Somethings have an infinitely small chance of happening. This is where I begin to ponder *faith*.

I feel a little uneasy talking about faith. As I grew up, faith was spoken about as something separate from facts. When I had questions about biblical miracles, I was told to “just have a little faith.” But as a Unitarian Universalist I have found that faith doesn’t have to be supernatural. Recently I was re-reading *Tending the Flame: The Art of Unitarian Universalist Parenting* in which the author speaks of “believing in something we hope for but cannot be certain of.” She speaks of how faith is not the facts we believe about religion but the core of how we search and find meaning in life. Of course my life has uncertainties but it also has profound hope for what can be. Hope for *possibilities*.

So as a Unitarian Universalist, I can’t make a list of my “faith” and hand it to my child. I live in the mindset of possibility and I can show him how I find meaning in that way. But it is also important for him to be with others who believe in possibilities and live as though the future is not set. In the “extended family” that we connect with at church through Family Ministry, he sees even more people living with more possibilities than I could even imagine. He grows alongside other young people in hope as they define their own faith. He sees how we use our faith to guide our choices, how we face challenges, and how we act together in covenant.

The other thing I think of while pondering Possibility, as I add this image of an acorn, is how the young people of our church ARE Possibility in physical form. Our children are open to more possibilities in their lives than this acorn is. Can you see how this acorn is a symbol of the children of UUMAN and a symbol of possibilities? Family ministry is nurturing the family: “acorns”, “oaks”, and all possibilities!

–Heather Moll-Dunn



India Celebration Pilgrimage - Feb. 2019

By Sophie Davis

This February, my mother Valerie and I will be participating in the India Celebration Pilgrimage, organized by the UUPCC (Unitarian Universalist Partner Church Council). We will be visiting UUMAN’s sister church in Mawsynjri in the Khasi Hills area of Northeast India. We will be there during the celebration of the 10th Anniversary of the founding of the Children’s Village orphanage. We are also lucky to be meeting Rev. Catie Scudera from the First Parish Needham, MA, UU church, who will be leading the trip and who was one of the original founders of the Village.

The members of UUMAN had raised \$1,100 to sponsor a young adult to go on this trip. I am very grateful to be the recipient of this scholarship, and I am also very grateful to the UUPCC, which awarded an additional \$500 travel grant to offset my airline fees. As a student majoring in world languages and cultures at GSU and then Reinhardt University, I am excited to participate in this partnership and learn about this region of the world. I am also excited to further enrich our relationship with our sister church and I feel like I will learn a lot from meeting the community in Mawsynjri.

I am planning to do many activities with the children in the Village such as jewelry making, origami, and other art projects. I am also planning to learn some of the Khasi language and prepare a scrapbook about my family, UUMAN, and life in Georgia to show them. I would like to help with their gardening work or any other grounds projects there. UUMAN had recently raised money for a young man, Basharboy, in the Mawsynjri area to have a heart operation. Sadly, he had passed away before being able to have the operation. I hope to visit his family to give our condolences.

The India Celebration Pilgrimage runs from February 26 – March 6, 2019. If anyone else is still interested in joining the trip, please contact Michelle Liebergesell, our UUPCC committee chair here at UUMAN.



Salsa and Merengue Class & Open Dance Event

There is still room to join the salsa and merengue class or open dance event on February 2 at UUMAN. This event will have two parts. The night will start with a dance lesson that will teach you the basic steps and turns of merengue and salsa. Then, we’ll have an hour or so of open dancing. Already know how to dance salsa and merengue? Just sign up for the open dance. Adam and Ginelle have been dancing together for over ten years and are very excited to share their knowledge with you.

The class is from 7 pm- 8:30 pm and the Open Dance event starts at 8:30 pm. No partner necessary. Donation to UUMAN is \$30 for the class + open dance or \$10 for the open dance only. Bring your own beverage(s) and option to bring an appetizer or dessert to share. RSVP (not required but helpful) to heller.ginelle@gmail.com.

Get ready to spin and have fun! —Ginelle Heller



UUMAN Sharing the Plate—50/50

Once each month, half of our undesignated plate offering is given to a non-profit organization. The other half goes for the work of our congregation. Please consider giving even more generously than usual on these Sundays.

UUMAN's next 50/50 Sunday is January 20th, 2019. This month's recipient of half of the proceeds from the unpledged plate is **Black Lives of Unitarian Universalism also known as BLUU.**

BLUU is committed to:

- Expanding the power & capacity of Black UUs within our faith
- Providing support, information & resources for Black Unitarian Universalists.
- Justice-making and liberation through our faith

The multi-generational service in January will focus on BLUU and the UUAs commitment to that organization. Here is the video by UUA President Rev. Susan Frederick Gray and BLUU Executive Director Lena Gardner:

<https://uacdn.s3.amazonaws.com/videos/bluu-funding-appeal.mp4>

—Michelle Liebergesell



2019 UUMAN Chili Cookoff

It's time once again for the UUMAN Chili Cookoff! Whether you're defending last year's crown or competing for the first time, this social event is as fun for the contestants (you?) as the tasters (definitely you).

This year, we will have three categories, with fabulous prizes for each: Chili, Soup, and Cornbread. Time to dust off your famous family recipe, to share with our UUMAN family. We will also need sides and desserts. Sign up at this link, or contact Jane Soule or Mike Chambers:

<https://drive.google.com/open?id=10-z5dZ3FfJxMO1EMZiQRMRh120GUKGf8YwetwJOqoPY>

We don't have enough outlets in Fellowship Hall to accommodate more than 16 crock pots. That means we can only accept a total of 16 entrants between soup and chili. All cornbread, sides, and desserts, please bring as is (no heating required).

As in year's past, contributions will be voluntary, with all proceeds going to a UUMAN 50/50-approved charity. Don't miss this fun event!

- Mike Chambers



Life Celebrations

We want to commemorate the happy occasions in the lives of our UUMAN members and other friends of UUMAN. We are looking for Naming Ceremonies, Graduations, Marriages, Anniversaries, Retirements, and Birthdays. Please submit the information about your special day, in the month prior to the event, to communications-chair@uuman.org

Date	Celebration
1/2	Lily H. of our MCY program is celebrating a birthday
1/4	Jamie Hagood is celebrating a birthday
1/5	Ev S. of our MCY program is celebrating a birthday
1/7	Mia M. of our MCY program is celebrating a birthday
1/15	Randy Jue is celebrating a birthday
1/21	Nelson Hagood is celebrating a birthday
	Dharma H. is celebrating a birthday
1/23	Tammy Dunn is celebrating a birthday
1/24	Donna Melcher is celebrating a birthday
1/29	Dave Dunn is celebrating a birthday

A Month of Sundays

Date	Topic	Service Leaders
1/6	<p>I am a Prisoner of Hope</p> <p>Philosopher Cornel West maintains that he is a “prisoner of hope.” What might this mean when faced with evil, despair and nihilism? Might hope be nothing more than the sunny side of denial? Might hope lead us to new possibilities, new futures?</p>	Rev. Dave Dunn
1/13	<p>Vulnerability and Weakness</p> <p>What is the cause of our loneliness? Does our fear of imperfection cause us to retreat into the safety of ourselves? Do we feel we are worthy? What can be gained by being vulnerable with one another?</p>	Rev. Dave Dunn
1/20	<p>Service Title: The Promise and Practice of Our Faith</p> <p>Listen to the voices of the black lives of UUMAN and Unitarian Universalism. The Promise and the Practice is a celebration of our shared commitment to live into a new chapter in the story of our UU faith. Can we listen? Can we do better?</p>	Black Lives of UUMAN and Unitarian Universalism
1/27	<p>The Ultimate Living and Dying Test</p> <p>One absolute certainty is our own death – at least the death of our physical bodies in this earthly realm. How do we prepare for this? Is there preparation that can be done? How might this preparation cause us to live our lives – our remaining time – differently?</p>	Rev. Dave Dunn

January Connections

Date	Event
<p>Wednesday nights from 7:00 PM to 9:30 PM in Fellowship Hall.</p>	<p>UUMAN’s Painting Group</p> <p>Learn to paint in a relaxed atmosphere (with a glass of red wine if desired). We have easels and tray tables; just bring your paints and a canvas. A portion of the fee goes to UUMAN. Contact: Annette Pate painting@uuman.org</p>
<p>Weekly on Wednesdays at 12:15. Location of meetings vary.</p>	<p>Daytimers</p> <p>The Daytimers group discusses contemporary, thought-provoking topics such as current political issues or social trends that may affect everyone at some level. All are invited to attend. For information, contact Dan Ben-David. dan@uuman.org</p>
<p>Saturdays from 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. In the Sanctuary</p>	<p>Centering at UUMAN</p> <p>Silent meditation Saturday mornings at UUMAN. Please come at 9:00 for some basic instruction if it is your first time. The meditation itself begins promptly at 9:30. Please be in your seats on time. Those who wish to may stay after for 30 to 45 minutes of discussion about our experiences. For more information, contact Carolyn Bommarito at campoften@aol.com</p>
<p>2nd and 4th Tuesdays at 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 in Discovery Hall</p>	<p>Circle of Women</p> <p>We aim to develop a warm nurturing circle of trust where we can share ourselves and our lives. Contact Linda Etheridge lletheridge1@gmail.com</p>
<p>Saturdays , 1-2:30 in the Sanctuary, or Discovery Hall if the Sanctuary is not available. Childcare is available .</p>	<p>Mindfulness Meditation</p> <p>Whether you have been meditating for years or are curious about possibly starting a practice, we offer a peaceful space to sit as well as a time to share and learn in a community of fellow meditators. Contact J. Kevin King at jkevinking@yahoo.com (470) 723-4070</p>

For more information about other offerings at UUMAN, go to www.uuman.org.

ABOUT THE UUMANTimes: The UUMANTimes is the newsletter of Unitarian Universalist Metro Atlanta North (UUMAN). We go live with each issue by the first Sunday of the month; deadline for submissions is typically on the 22nd of the month preceding the issue date.

Please email your news articles and artwork to Becky at newsletter@uuman.org