

November 2023

Inside this issue:

Israel – Hamas War	1
Common Grounds	2
Coffee House	
UUMAN Congregational Meeting	3
Our 50/50 Recipient This Month: NFCC	3
UU at Atlanta Pride Parade	4
November 2023: A Month of Sundays	5
Life Celebrations	5



Israel – Hamas War

We are all heartbroken by the ongoing events in Israel and Gaza and we at UUMAN are in solidarity with both the Jewish and Islamic communities. Although the perpetrators

committing acts of violence claim to do so in God's name, such acts have nothing to do with God, religion or spiritual life. We pray for peace and beloved communities amongst all people.

Since Oct 7, the beginning of this most recent stage of this conflict, thousands have lost their lives on both sides. Most of the casualties have been civilians; and I am afraid that these numbers are likely to escalate dramatically.

When considering the citizens involved in this conflict, and by citizens I am not talking about the criminal organizations and governments; the citizens can all point to historical oppression and marginalization in one form or another. The cycle of blame is seemingly never-ending, and it is often exacerbated by third parties trying to take political advantage of the situation at the expense of both Israelis and Palestinians.

Leaders of moral courage who have the authority to negotiate are needed on both sides. I'm not sure who such leaders are, however. The citizens in Gaza have not had the opportunity to elect their leaders since 2006 and hence, they are essentially democratically powerless. The people of Israel at least have to power to elect their leaders and the citizens, therefore, must assume some responsibility for the actions of those leaders. The citizens have a duty to hold those elected leaders accountable. (The same is true for us here in the US. As I write this, a leading figure in the movement to overturn the 2020 election was elected as the new Speaker of the House.)

Courageous leaders are hard to come by. After participating in the 1993 Oslo Accords and shaking Yasser Arafat's hand, Yitzhak Rabin was assassinated by a right-wing extremist.

Maybe I'm wrong, but I've always thought that if the Palestinians were able to have a leader like Gandhi rather than the leaders they've had over the years, there would likely be a Palestinian homeland.

That said, Gandhi was assassinated by a right-wing Hindu extremist.

Again, we pray for peace and beloved communities amongst all people.

Nurture our spirit. Strive for Justice. Transform the world.

- Dave



Common Grounds Coffee House

Connecting people who love to play music with those that love to listen.

November 18

\$5 suggested donation (**cash only**)

Doors open at 7 pm and show starts at 7:30 pm

Good Friends, Good Food, Great Music!

Tell a friend! Bring a friend! Forward to a friend!

We will be selling some treats in the kitchen and you are still welcome to bring your own food and drink. You might want to bring some cash to tip the performers and for treats from the kitchen, small bills are always appreciated. Masks are optional at this time at UUMAN, but please feel free to wear one as needed/desired.

We will also be collecting canned and dry food goods for North Fulton Community Charities. If you have the means to do so, please bring something to donate. The Food Pantry at NFCC is currently serving 200 clients each day and is in need of the following items: FRUIT CUPS, JUICE BOXES, CANNED VEGETABLES.

November 18 Performers

Jason Connelly

Jason Connelly - (Blues-Inspired, Soulful Vocals and Guitar)

Since the release of his first record, 'Songs from Inside the Attic', in 2009, Jason Connelly and his band released five more records, and toured the U.S. Southlands, sharing his craft. Creating music that sparks positivity and sincerity, the soulful sound that emits from his vocals and the blues-inspired chords that strum from his rhythmic guitar are not what you would



expect to hear from his humble nature. Jason often attributes his sound to his soulful musical influences like Bill Withers, Al Greene, Bonnie Raitt, Fiona Apple, and Augustana.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=x1Hv9f8ftXM>

Sassfolk

SassFolk - (Folky tunes. Sweet harmonies. Lots of laughter)



Sassfolk is the melodic big bang of long lost friends, Jana Wolf and Ana Pike. Sassy harmonies and nostalgic melodies are the bread and butter of their sound. Their modern-folk tunes, sprinkled with life ramblings and laugh-fests, will leave you feeling like you have found some new best friends.

<https://fb.watch/nTJgnMFz5z/>

Upcoming shows:

December 16: Holiday show with Keltic Kudzu and TBD

January: No show, will be back in February

- Janet Lacey

UUMAN Congregational Meeting: November 19, 12-1 p.m.

Our Congregational Meeting will be held on November 19th, from 12 to 1 in the sanctuary. During 2nd hour, there will be a vegetarian potluck in Fellowship Hall.

UUMAN leaders will provide updates on our progress in the past year. Topics will include:

- ♦ Finances
- ♦ Board Goals
- ♦ Special Projects
- ♦ Religious Exploration
- ♦ Membership
- ♦ Program Council

Our congregational meetings are an important part of our church governance and transparency. And potlucks are important for fellowship and fun! We hope to see you all.

While there will be no live-stream for this meeting, the slides will be made available.

- Mike Chambers

We plan to change to the first Saturday of the month, starting in January. You can always check the Breeze calendar for the date. You can also bring food donations to UUMAN; they are stored in the foyer of the sanctuary.

During this month of Thanksgiving, we should all be thankful that we have an NFCC in our community and for all the good work they do.

- Mike Chambers

Our 50/50 Recipient This Month: NFCC

Our 50/50 recipient in November is an old friend—North Fulton Community Charities (NFCC). I recently took a tour of the NFCC facilities. I thought I knew all about NFCC, but I was very wrong. They are a lot more than just a food pantry and a thrift shop.

For example, did you know that NFCC teaches English as a second language (ESL) at their facilities? Or that they help people prepare their taxes? Or that they help our neighbors apply for government services like food stamps or Medicaid? Or that they provide financial assistance to people who have lost their job or suffered an unexpected emergency expense? Or that they provide job-search and financial coaching? Last year, 1400 adults took education classes at the NFCC Education Center on the path to self-sufficiency. NFCC is a veritable one-stop shop for people who are struggling. If you don't believe me, stop in there any day of the week. The parking lot will be full!

You can help NFCC do all of this good work by contributing to our 50/50 cause this month, via the Givelify app. Just make sure to select "50/50 Plate" in Givelify. You can also volunteer any time during the week, or on our UUMAN volunteer Saturdays, which are usually the 4th Saturday of the month, from 10 am to 1 pm.

Our Unitarian Universalist Presence at the Atlanta Pride Parade

We had a blast at the Atlanta Pride Parade this year! Led by our minister, Dave, twelve of us UUMANites including a Youth and a child carpooled to Marta to the parade start. There we mingled with other UUs from Atlanta congregations while waiting for the parade to begin.

This year's Pride theme was Show Up and Show Out, and the creativity displayed was amazing! The Atlanta Botanical Gardens had a drag queen honeybee strutting her stuff in high heeled stacks! When we disappointedly learned that the UU Pride Committee had not applied and paid for float rights this year, one of our members, Paul Teal and his company, Party 'til You POP creatively rose to the challenge. He provided us with back-pack balloons, batons, and a custom-made chalice.

As we were walking the parade route to Piedmont Park, people were gathered cheering and celebrating as we went by. And there was dancing in the streets!

Next year will be even better because we will have a float so, please plan to come and join us for the celebration!

- Michelle Liebergesell



November 2023: A Month of Sundays

Date	Topic	Service Leaders
11/5	<p>You Are Not Alone</p> <p>Friction Farm is a husband and wife team of internationally traveling troubadours. They combine storytelling, social commentary and humor to create songs of everyday life, local heroes, and quirky observations. From ballads to anthems each song is filled with harmony and hope. You won't want to miss this service!</p>	Rev. Dave Dunn
11/12	TBA	Layled
11.19	<p>Bread Communion</p> <p>Bread is a symbol of life-giving sustenance and today we will share a bread communion together. Please bring a bread (homemade if possible) that elicits memories of childhood sustenance. You will have the opportunity to share this memory with us.</p>	Rev. Dave Dunn
11/26	<p>America's Native Stories</p> <p>The story of Thanksgiving goes back to the Pilgrims who landed at Plymouth Rock. Yet before they were here there were already people here – loving their loved ones and living their lives. Let's hear some of their stories – stories of creation, stories of love and the ubiquitous trickster tales.</p>	Rev. Dave Dunn



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 membership@uuman.org.

Date	Celebration
11/1	Susan W. is celebrating a birthday.
11/3	Meara P-K. is celebrating a birthday.
11/10	Linda E. is celebrating a birthday.
11/11	Kendall L. is celebrating a birthday.
11/12	Merry Beth S. is celebrating a birthday.
11/13	Steve A. is celebrating a birthday.
11/14	Doug W. is celebrating a birthday.
11/16	Debra B. is celebrating a birthday.
11/17	John B. is celebrating a birthday.
11/20	Carolyn L. is celebrating a birthday.
11/21	Joe C. is celebrating a birthday.
11/22	Sasha G. is celebrating a birthday.
11/28	Mike B. is celebrating a birthday.

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



Happy Thanksgiving!