

**Women's Retreat 2020: Registration Now Open!** Are you a woman-identifying member or friend of UUSG? Would you like to deepen your connections within our community in a space created for relaxation, meditation, and fun? Please join us at the 7th Annual Women's Retreat, January 31- February 2, 2020. This year's theme is "Sourcing Our Strength: Our Selves, Our Sisters, Our Society." Reverend Jennifer will open the retreat Friday night, and we will continue to explore this theme through Sunday morning. We will also enjoy yoga, a gong and singing bowl meditation, and optional add-on services such as massage and reiki. And of course, we will spend time connecting with each other, sharing meals and conversation. The retreat will once again take place at the Nazareth Spirituality Center in Batavia. Both overnight and non-overnight spots are available. For more information and to register, visit the retreat page at [uusg.org/womens-retreat](http://uusg.org/womens-retreat). Questions? Contact the committee at [womensretreat@uusg.org](mailto:womensretreat@uusg.org).

#### **Contact Information**

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## **Today & This Week at UUSG**

[uusg.org/calendar](http://uusg.org/calendar)

### **Sunday, December 29**

- 11:00 am Potluck Brunch in the Common Room

### **Monday, December 30**

### **Tuesday, December 31 New Year's Eve**

### **Wednesday, January 1 2020!**

### **Thursday, January 2**

### **Friday, January 3**

### **Saturday, January 4**

### **Sunday, January 5**

- All morning Styrofoam Sunday
- 11:15 am Big Ideas Covenant Group
- 11:20 am Green Sanctuary Team Meeting

**Styrofoam Sunday – January 5.** Next Sunday bring clean Styrofoam to the cardboard box at our 110 S. 2nd Street Entrance for recycling. Thanks to Bill Koehl and the Green Sanctuary Team for leading this initiative.

**Friday Flick: RBG.** Friday, January 24, 2020 at 7pm in the Common Room. At the age of 85, U.S. Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg has developed a lengthy legal legacy while becoming an unexpected pop culture icon. But the unique personal journey of her rise to the nation's highest court has been largely unknown, even to some of her biggest fans – until now. RBG explores Ginsburg's life and career. From Betsy West and Julie Cohen, and co-produced by Storyville Films and CNN Films.



December 29, 2019

**Unitarian Universalist  
Society of Geneva**

*Fire Service*

#### **Today's Worship Team**

**In the Pulpit:** Rev. Emmy Lou Belcher

**Worship Associate:** Melissa Auer

**Greeter:** Louise Haslett

**Musician:** Geoff Pynn

**Counters:** Tom Haslett, Jamie Carroll

**Sunday Coordinator:** Becky Hruby

#### **Upcoming Services**

**January 5:** Question Box Service with Rev. Jennifer Innis & Rev. Patrick Price

**January 12:** Rev. Jennifer Innis & Rev. Patrick Price

*Come as you are.*

## Order of Worship

### Ingathering Music

### Ringing of the Church Bell & Call to Worship

**Song of Community** # 368 “Now Let Us Sing”

### Words of Welcome

### Community Announcements

### Congregational Greetings

*Enter into Shared Silence at the sound of the Rin Gong*

### Chalice Lighting

**Congregational Reading** # 656 “A Harvest of Gratitude”

### Offering

### Sacred Story

**Hymn** # 395 “Sing and Rejoice”

### Homily

### Introduction to Fire Bowl

### Leaving Regrets Behind

**Hymn** # 396 “I Know This Rose Will Open”

### Pastoral Prayer and Meditation

### Unison Closing

**Reprise** # 368 “Now Let Us Sing”

### Benediction

*\*Please stand as you are willing and able*

## Announcements

**Please join us** for a potluck brunch in the Common Room immediately following the service.

**Staff Time Off** Rev. Jennifer & Rev. Patrick will be on vacation through January 2. Our Congregational Administrator, Christine Imielski, will be out of the office December 31 - January 1. Office hours through January 3, are by appointment only. Questions? Email [office@uusg.org](mailto:office@uusg.org).

**End-of-year Contributions** Donors must deliver checks on or by December 31, to claim a charitable contribution deduction for 2019. Checks that are placed in the church offering during the first worship service in 2020 will not qualify for a charitable contribution deduction in the previous year, even if the check is predated to 2019 or was written in 2019. However, checks that are written, mailed, and postmarked in 2019 will be deductible, even if they are not received by the church until 2020.

**An Evening of Folk Music** Join us for an Evening of Folk Music with February Sky on Friday, January 10, 2020, at 7pm, in the Sanctuary. February Sky features traditional singer and Celtic guitarist Phil Cooper with songwriter and singer Susan Urban. Free & open to the public. Cosponsored by the Geneva Park District. More details at [februarysky.com](http://februarysky.com).

**New UUs** Are you new around here? Have you been wondering what UUSG is all about? Are you looking for something to do on a Sunday afternoon? Would you like a free lunch? The UUSG Welcoming Team invites interested newcomers to attend our next New UUs session on Sunday, February 9, 2020. If you'd like to request childcare, please do so on the sign up. A minimum of two weeks' notice is needed to find available caregivers. Watch for more details in the Sunday Bulletin and listen for pulpit announcements as the date approaches. RSVP at [uusg.org/new-uus](http://uusg.org/new-uus). Questions? Please stop by the Welcome Center during Social Hour or contact Jim Frazier or Deb Brod at [welcoming@uusg.org](mailto:welcoming@uusg.org).

**Beyond Our Walls.** This December, our BOW recipients are the Literacy Trivia Bee and Mutual Ground. The Trivia Bee benefits the Fox Valley Literacy Volunteers, who provide one-to-one literacy tutoring to adults in Kane County. Mutual Ground Shelter provides services in Kane and Kendall Counties for Victims of Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault. Their work has been severely hampered by deep budget cuts from the State of Illinois. Please make checks out to "UUSG" and write "BOW" in the memo line. Thank you for your generous giving!

**Anti-Racism Book Discussion** UUSG's Buddhist Group and Social Justice Team invite you to join us for an interfaith book discussion on fighting both systemic and personal racism. Discussion will be co-led by Lisa Gades and Myoyu Roshi of Great Plains Zen Center. Online meetings run from January through May. They will cover these two important books: *White Rage: The Unspoken Truth of our Racial Divide*, Carol Anderson, and *White Fragility: Why It's So Hard for White People to Talk About Racism*, Robin DiAngelo. Please contact Lisa for more info ([uubuddhism@uusg.org](mailto:uubuddhism@uusg.org)). Full details are available in the weekly email.

**For UUs who simply want to learn more** about the history of the Bible as literature, as well as early Christianity, “Bible Study for UUs” will meet January 20, 7-8:30pm. We'll be discussing the prophetic books Ezekiel, Daniel and Zechariah which are frequently referred to in “Rabbi Jesus: An Intimate Biography” by Bruce Chilton. Need info? Jim Frazier [biblestudy@uusg.org](mailto:biblestudy@uusg.org).

**Covenant Town Hall** The Transition Team invites everyone to the next town hall meeting at 1pm on January 19. Board President Brian Doyle and the Transition Team will introduce a Covenant on Diversity and Inclusion for the congregation's consideration. This covenant is part of the next phase of study around welcoming and becoming aware of bias. A pizza lunch will be provided. See the Transition Team, Revs. Jennifer and Patrick, or Brian Doyle for questions. RSVP at [uusg.org/town-hall](http://uusg.org/town-hall).