



October 11, 2020

Unitarian Universalist Society of Geneva

Today's Worship Team

In the Pulpit: Rev. Scot Hull

Worship Associate: Rhonda Robinson

Musicians: Susan Conant, Jeanne Fornari, Andy Montgomery,
Cynthia Spiegel, Elena Spiegel, Sophia Spiegel, Tom Zimmerman

Technical Directors: Jeff Stibal, Cari Gesiakowski

Upcoming Services:

Sunday, October 18: Guest-In-The-Pulpit: Matt Aspin

Sunday, October 25: Rev. Scot Hull

Come as you are.

Order of Worship

Ringing the Bell Samantha Gesiakowski

Call to Worship

Prelude "Breath In the Wind," text David Wright, music James E. Clemens

Welcoming Words

Opening Hymn # 120 "Turn Back"

Turn back, turn back, forswear thy foolish ways.
Old now is earth, and none may count its days;
yet humankind, whose head is crowned with flame,
still will not hear the inner God proclaim —
"Turn back, turn back, forswear thy foolish ways."

Earth might be fair, its people glad and wise.
Age after age our tragic empires rise,
built while we dream, and in that dreaming weep:
would we but wake from out our haunted sleep,
earth might be fair, and people glad and wise.

Earth shall be fair, and all its people one;
nor till that hour shall God's whole will be done.
Now, even now, once more from earth to sky,
peals forth in joy that old undaunted cry —
"Earth shall be fair, and all its people one."

Chalice Lighting Elaina Hruby

Song of Praise

Praise God, the Love we all may share;
Praise God, the Beauty everywhere;
Praise God, the Hope of Good to be;
Praise God, the Truth that makes us free.

Our Covenant (written in 1842)

Being desirous of promoting practical goodness in the world,
And of aiding each other in our moral and religious improvement,
We have associated ourselves together -
Not as agreeing in opinion,
Not as having attained universal truth in belief

Or perfection in character -
But as seekers after truth and goodness.

Doxology

From all that dwell below the skies
Let faith and hope with love arise;
Let beauty, truth, and good be sung
Through every land by every tongue.

Passing the Peace

For All Ages "Stolen Words," presented by Becky Hruby

REcap Chung Liang, Jaime Anderson

Joys & Sorrows

Hymn # 123 "Spirit of Life"

Spirit of Life, come unto me.
Sing in my heart all the stirrings of compassion.
Blow in the wind, rise in the sea;
move in the hand, giving life the shape of justice.
Roots hold me close; wings set me free;
Spirit of Life, come to me, come to me.

Offertory

Gratitude for the Offering

Reading

Musical Response "Greedy Life," Michael Landau

Sermon "The Truth About Stories"

Closing Hymn # 315 "This Old World"

This old world is full of sorrow, full of sickness, weak and sore;
if you love your neighbor truly, love will come to you the more.

We're all children of one family; we're all brothers, sisters, too;
if you cherish one another, love and friendship come to you.

This old world can be a garden, full of fragrance, full of grace;
if we love our neighbors truly, we must meet them face to face.

It is said now, "Love thy neighbor," and we know well that is true;
this, the sum of human labor, true for me as well as you.

Chalice Extinguishing and Unison Closing

Benediction

Postlude “We Shall Not Be Moved,” African American Spiritual

Community Announcements

Talk Back and Coffee Hour Breakouts

Contact Information

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Today & This Week at UUSG

uusg.org/calendar

(All activities meet via Zoom. Contact your group leader for links.)

Sunday, October 11

- 9:00 am RE Class K-2
- 10:00 am Online Worship Service
- 11:15 am RE Class 3-5
- 12:00 pm RE Class 6-8
- 12:00 pm RE Class 9-12

Monday, October 12

- 11:30 am Women's Circle Planning Meeting
- 1:00 pm Finance Team Meeting

Tuesday, October 13

- 7:00 pm Board of Directors

Wednesday, October 14

- 10:00 am Staff Meeting

Thursday, October 15

- 11:00 am Simply Sharing Circle

Friday, October 16 Happy Birthday Augustus!

Saturday, October 17

Sunday, October 18

- 9:00 am RE Class K-2
- 10:00 am Online Worship Service
- 11:15 am RE Class 3-5
- 12:00 pm RE Class 6-8
- 12:00 pm RE Class 9-12

Announcements

A big shout out to the Facilities Team! The new porch stoop on James Street has been poured. The Facilities Team saved our church about \$4,000 by working over two weekends to do the demolition work themselves. Facilities Rocks!

The For All Ages book today is "Stolen Words," by Melanie Florence and illustrated by Gabrielle Grimard, published by Second Story Press. In this story, a little girl's grandfather sadly shares with her he has lost his native language--his form of expression, interaction, life and spirit. This story was chosen to remind us of the many facets of language and to keep alive the many diverse viewpoints (including languages) of the world. Thanks to Second Story Press for their permission to share the book today. When shopping for books, please patronize our local independent bookshops: Harvey's Tales, Townhouse Books, and Anderson's Bookshop. If you prefer to shop online, Bookshop.org allows your purchase to support the independent bookshop of your choice.

Guest Speaker for October 18, Matt Aspin: We are living in times of high anxiety. Our current direction seems to be leading us into deeper and deeper trouble, and it is getting harder each day to know what to believe from the cacophony of noise bombarding our senses. Might listening to the knowing whispers of the long-marginalized help us find our way back to peace?

Matt Aspin earned his Masters of Divinity degree from Meadville Lombard Theological School. He was granted Preliminary Fellowship by the Ministerial Fellowship Committee, and will soon be ordained by his home congregation in West Seattle, WA. He is currently residing in Milwaukee, WI, and recently accepted a position as the Interim Dir. Of Religious Exploration for the Auburn UU Fellowship in Alabama, where he will be serving remotely for the remainder of the 2020-21 church year.

For All Ages Opportunity. Are you interested in an opportunity to read a "For All Ages" story during a Zoom Sunday service? Please let the newly formed "For All Ages Team" of Rhonda Robinson, Tom Lichtenheld and Becky Hruby know! Whether you want to read alone or with a loved one, there will be stories to tell. Please let us know if you would like your name on the list of potential readers. There will be many opportunities throughout the year. Also note whether you prefer a solo gig or have other voices in your home that would like to join you. Please contact Becky Hruby at DRE@uusg.org.

Simply Sharing Circle. Thursday, Oct. 15 at 11 AM will be our next Zoom gathering. If you would like to receive the Zoom link about our meetings going forward, contact Christine in our UUSG office at office@uusg.org or Gail Tattersfield. Would love to have you join us.

Women's Circle Restore And Renew: An October Celebration Saturday, October 24, 1-3pm, via Zoom. Late October traditionally marks the end of the harvest season and the beginning of winter. This special time of the year is known as Samhain in the pagan religion and originates from an ancient Celtic spiritual tradition. Find out more about this celebration and other pantheistic-pagan traditions at our October Women's Circle. All members and friends (new or longtime) identifying as female (18+) are invited. If possible, please bring the following to the meeting: a candle, items from a nature walk (colored leaves, a stone, berries, or an acorn are good examples), a fall fruit or vegetable. [Sign up here to receive the Zoom link.](#) **"See" you October 24, 1-3 on Zoom.**

October Beyond Our Walls: The Humanitarian Seniors Project With your support, every month the Humanitarian Service Project's volunteers deliver fruits and vegetables, meat, bread, non-perishables, paper products, and more to the low-income seniors in their Senior Citizen Project. In past UUSG Days of Service, friends and members of the church have helped assemble hundreds of bags with essential supplies. Although it is doubtful that UUSG will be able to sponsor a Day of Service in the spring, our senior neighbors need our support now more than ever.

Soup Kitchen Group Trinity Episcopal Church, a local community shelter, continues to count on UUSG volunteers to provide lunches on a Thursday of the month every few months. They need UUSG to provide lunches for 75 people. An optimal way of making this easier for the volunteers would be for 5 families to each prepare 15 sack meals. **Our next scheduled date is Thursday, October 22.** Please consider joining in this important ministry! [For sign up and detailed instructions click here.](#)

At the Veterans Day service on November 8 we will once again display photos of UUSG veterans and their families (going back many generations). If you like to include your family photos, send them to Jeff Stibal (jtstibal@gmail.com) by November 3. Electronic submissions are preferred, but not necessary. Please include captions with your submissions. If you would like Jeff to no longer include photos submitted in previous years, please let him know. Thank you!

Ethical Eating After Andrew de Coriolis' presentation on Ethical Eating this summer, there was considerable interest in developing a program for UUSG. If you are interested in participating or learning more, please contact Bill Koehl at 222koehl@gmail.com.

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" is on the third Monday of each month, 7-8:30pm. Our next meeting will be on October 19. We'll continue our discussion of "[Peter, Paul and Mary Magdalene: The Followers of Jesus in History and Legend](#)" by Bart Ehrman. We'll be discussing Paul. We'll discuss Mary Magdalene in November. We'll meet using Zoom. For more info, please contact Jim Frazier biblestudy@uusg.org.

From the Minister's Desk

October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month, and is part of an annual international health campaign organized by major breast cancer charities to increase awareness of the disease and to raise funds for research into its cause, prevention, diagnosis, treatment and cure. Please visit nationalbreastcancer.org for more information on screening, education and support.

October is also Bullying Prevention Month Every day, thousands of young people experience bullying from their peers while at school, after school in their neighborhoods, and even when they are at home, through social media and texts. There are many ways to support bullying prevention as an individual or with friends and family, and within your school or community. Please visit pacer.org/bullying/nbpm/ to learn more and for ways to get involved.

October is also LGBT History Month This is an annual month-long observance of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender history, and the history of the gay rights and related civil rights movements. Founded in 1994 by Missouri high-school history teacher Rodney Wilson, LGBT History Month provides role models, builds community, and represents a civil rights statement about the contributions of the LGBTQ+ community. Every day this month, a different video story will be highlighted at <https://lgbthistorymonth.com>.

October is also Clergy Appreciation Month Your new clergy person wants you to know that you are loved, that you are seen, and that you are appreciated. If you're so moved to return that compassionate understanding, he wants you to know that his job would be impossible without the amazing staff at UUSG and suggests that your continuing expressions of gratitude and thanks to them would be a tremendous gift.

[“The Truth About Stories: A Native Narrative,” by Thomas King](#) In *The Truth About Stories*, Native novelist and scholar Thomas King explores how stories shape who we are and how we understand and interact with other people. From creation stories to personal experiences, historical anecdotes to social injustices, racist propaganda to works of contemporary Native literature, King probes Native culture's deep ties to storytelling. With wry humor, King deftly weaves events from his own life as a child in California, an academic in Canada, and a Native North American with a wide-ranging discussion of stories told by and about Indians.

[“An Indigenous Peoples' History of the United States,” by Roxanne Dunbar-Ortiz](#) Spanning more than four hundred years, this classic bottom-up peoples' history radically reframes US history and explodes the silences that have haunted our national narrative.

Trick or treating may look different this year. But, chocolate is the same tasty treat it has always been. Something else is also the same – child labor and deforestation are still ingredients in big name chocolate bars. [We made this cheat sheet so you can easily spot chocolate brands doing chocolate better.](#) Many of these companies are also Green Business Members of Green America, and all of these chocolates are available for purchase online! During the pandemic, child labor in cocoa has risen by an estimated 20% and small businesses everywhere are struggling, so using your purchasing power this Halloween is even more important than usual. Whether you are spending Halloween at home or discovering new ways to safely pass out candy, we hope that our [‘Trick or Treat Cheat Sheet’](#) helps you pick chocolate that you can feel good about eating.

The Board of Directors has extended our current stay-at-home practice including a continuation of virtual services, group meetings and other functions until at least **November 30**. Ongoing assessments are being monitored and further updates will be posted at [uusg.org](#) as relevant.

Need a hymnal? As we continue our virtual services, we are happy to let members and friends "check out" a hymnal from the church. Please email Christine at office@uusg.org to arrange a time to stop by UUSG. We are also offering hymnal delivery for local members who are unable to travel. Email Cynthia Spiegel, music director, at music@uusg.org for more information.

Join us in writing "Get Out the Vote" letters We're off to a great start, and we'd love to have you join in! We'll help you send letters targeting traditionally under-represented voters in Michigan or other states, and you'll tell them why voting is important to you. (This is very effective!) To join this effort, you can either go right to votefwd.org and follow the directions, or contact Nancy Dawn Van Beest for assistance. When you've addressed and sealed all your envelopes, let Nancy Dawn know so she can add the postage and hold them for the big "send date" in October. (It's important not to send them earlier.) **GOTV Update: Great News! Ten UUSG households are writing letters and postcards to encourage under-represented voters in Michigan, Georgia and other key states. We've finished 300+ letters through "Vote Forward" and 200 postcards through Indivisible! Can you help double our numbers in the final week, by 10/17? Contact Nancy Dawn Van Beest, nandawn@gmail.com for more information, supplies, or to be included in our final number!**

Social Justice News

[Hamilton Cast: When We All Vote](#)

This week on the Social Justice Calendar:

Tuesdays on the Bridge 4-5 pm on the Geneva Bridge on State Street, Geneva

Thursdays on the Bridge 4-5 pm on the St. Charles Bridge – Main Street, St. Charles. Rally for candidates and issues. Wear a mask and be prepared to socially distance, please. Bring signs.

Voting by mail is continuing – Contact your Board of Elections

[To request a Vote by Mail ballot in DuPage](#)

[To request a Vote by Mail ballot in Kane](#)

Mail Drop Boxes:

- Kane County Clerk's Office (Inside) 719 S. Batavia Ave., Bldg. B, Geneva Aurora
- Satellite Office (Inside) 5 E. Downer Pl., Suite F
- City of Elgin (Inside) 150 Dexter Ct, Elgin, IL 60120

October 19: Grace Period Registration and Voting at more locations

- Kane County Clerk's Office (719 S. Batavia Ave., Bldg. B, Geneva)
- Aurora Satellite Office (5 E. Downer Pl., Suite F)

Hours: Mon., Tues., Thurs., Fri. 8:30am-4:30pm; Wed. 8:30am-8pm

Learn about Candidates Here: illinoisvoterguide.org/ Enter your address, then click on Research Ballot.

Candidate Forums:

[See one Kane County Forum here:](#) Kane County Bd. members, State's Attorney, Recorder

[See another Kane County Forum here:](#) Auditor, Circuit Clerk, 16th Judicial, Kane Co. Bd. Chair

[See the Illinois General Assembly Candidate Forum here:](#) State Legislators for House 49, 50, 65 and Senate 25

[See the Congressional District 6 Forum here](#)

[See the Congressional District 14 Forum here](#)

We are so pleased to announce that we have established (and erected!) an outside gathering place for UUSG congregants!

On our 3rd Street property, our Swedish Days/Pizza booth tent is the new home to our outdoor, COVID-safe space. With just a quick sign-up and a promise to follow the rules, you and nine others can gather. Please utilize the sign-up here, pick a date to gather and have fun! This may be the perfect cure to that “lack of seeing” feeling that many of us have been experiencing. If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to the Re-Opening Task Force.

Rev. Scot Hull, minister@uusg.org

Molly MacKay Zacker, boardpresident@uusg.org

Brian Doyle, (email in directory)

Diane Gallentine, (email in directory)

Becky Hruby, dre@uusg.org

Christine Imielski, office@uusg.org

Lisa Rittenberry, admin.assistant@uusg.org

Guidelines for Small Group Gatherings on 3rd Street Property

1. All youth aged K-12 are welcome to use the tent with a parent or guardian present.
2. Use of the tent is limited to parties of 10 or less.
3. Do not come if you feel sick (e.g., fever, cough, shortness of breath, etc.)

4. Masks must be worn at all times and must cover your nose and mouth.
5. Maintain social distance (min. 6 feet)
6. Do not consume food and drinks under the tent (as these will require you to remove your mask.)
7. Bring your own chair.
8. Regarding trash, if you bring it in, take it out.
9. Please note that the church building remains closed to everyone except UUSG staff. (Bathroom facilities will be unavailable.)
10. Have fun!

[Sign Up Here](#)