



January 17, 2021

Unitarian Universalist Society of Geneva

Today's Worship Team

In the Pulpit: Rev. Scot Hull

Worship Associate: Colleen Cushing

Musicians: Angela Salvagionne, Lynn Fisher McCanne, Cynthia Spiegel, Doria Spiegel, Elena Spiegel, Sophia Spiegel, Tom Zimmerman

Technical Directors: Jeff Stibal, Cari Gesiakowski, Jamie Carroll

Upcoming Services:

Sunday, January 24: Guest-in-the-Pulpit: Rev. Molly Brewer

Sunday, January 31: Rev. Scot Hull

Come as you are.

Order of Worship

Ringing the Bell Maissy & Harper Littlefield, Elaina Hruby

Call to Worship

Prelude "We Shall Overcome," African American spiritual,
arranged and played by Angela Salvagionne

Welcoming Words

Opening Hymn # 199 "Precious Lord, Take My Hand"

(Chorus)

Precious Lord, take my hand, lead me on, let me stand,
I am tired, I am weak, I am worn;
through the storm, through the night, lead me on to the light,
take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.

When my way grows drear, precious Lord, linger near,
when my life is almost gone,
hear my cry, hear my call, hold my hand lest I fall;
take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.

(Chorus)

When the darkness appears and the night draws near,
and the day is past and gone,
at the river I stand, guide my feet, hold my hand;
take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.

Chalice Lighting Mikey Clements

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 “Martin's Big Words,” presented by Chung, Leo & Simon Liang

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.

Testimonial

Offertory

Gratitude for the Offering

Reading

Musical Response “On a Day in January,” Sandy Opatow and Pat Humphries

Sermon “Standing on the Shoulders of Giants: Reflections on Martin Luther King Day”

Closing Hymn We Shall Not Be Moved

We shall not, we shall not be moved, (2x)
Just like a tree that's planted by the water
We shall not be moved.

We're black and white together, we shall not be moved, (2x)
Just like a tree that's planted by the water
We shall not be moved.

We'll stand and fight together, we shall not be moved, (2x)
Just like a tree that's planted by the water
We shall not be moved.

We're standing up for justice, we shall not be moved, (2x)
Just like a tree that's planted by the water
We shall not be moved.

We shall not, we shall not be moved (2x)
Just like a tree that's planted by the water
We shall not be moved.

Chalice Extinguishing and Unison Closing

Benediction

Postlude "King for a Day," Jason Shelton

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, January 17

- 9:00 am RE Class K-2
- 10:00 am Online Worship Service
- 11:15 am RE Class 3-5
- 11:15 am RE Class 6-8
- 11:15 am RE Class 9-12
- 1:00 pm Minister Coffee

Monday, January 18

- 7:00 pm Bible Study for UUs Group

Tuesday, January 19

- 12:00 pm BYO Lunch with Rev. Scot
- 1:00 pm The Help Desk with Christine

Wednesday, January 20

- 10:00 am Staff Meeting
- 7:00 pm UU Buddhism Meditation & Study Group
- 7:00 pm Facilities Team Meeting

Thursday, January 21

- 11:00 am Simply Sharing Circle
- 7:30 pm UUSG Family Game Night

Friday, January 22

Saturday, January 23

Sunday, January 24

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

Announcements

BOW Giving in December 2020. We collected \$1,270.11 for Mutual Ground last month, and \$309.72 for the MAD Fund and HSP Seniors Project. Thank you for your generous giving!

Memoir, Life Stories, & Memories Writing Group. Following Rev. Scot's recent sermon on the value of our stories, let's explore the idea of sharing and writing together. UUSG member Gail Tattersfield has been participating in groups of writers for several years and the more she writes, the more she enjoys it! There are many ways to start this process so let's talk about that. We are planning an initial Zoom conversation on Thursday, January 28 at 1 PM. Join in on the virtual meeting and see if we can peak your interest. Contact Gail Tattersfield (gtats2@gmail.com) or Christine in the UUSG office (office@uusg.org) to have your email address added to the Zoom link list.

Women's Circle Restore and Renew: A February Celebration Saturday, February 27, 1-3pm via Zoom. So, what is a spiritual experience after all? And how could dreams be part of that? Well, have you ever had a dream that came true? Have you ever had a nightmare that helped you see beyond your fears? Or, have you ever had a dream that helped you create something important? Dreams can do all that. And more. If, that is, we know how to decode them. And here's a truth, no one else can tell you what your own dreams mean. But how do we decode such mysterious messages? This is what we will be exploring and sharing together in our next UUSG Women's Circle meeting on Zoom, February 27, 1-3pm. All members and friends (new or longtime) identifying as female (18+) are invited. Please join us. [Sign up here for Zoom link and to RSVP.](#)

The For All Ages book today is "Martin's Big Words," written by Doreen Rappaport and illustrated by Bryan Collier, published by Little, Brown Books for Young Readers. "Martin's Big Words" uses brief quotes from some of Martin Luther King, Jr.'s most beloved speeches to tell the story of his life and his work in a simple, direct way. The story is engaging, with vivid illustrations and provides all ages with the power to feel his message. Thanks to Little, Brown Books for Young Readers 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.

Bible Study for UUs 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 January 18. We'll be discussing the book "[Lamb: The Gospel According to Biff, Christ's Childhood Pal.](#)"

The Green Sanctuary Team is planning to start regular meetings again in February. If you are interested in participating, please let us know. greensanctuary@uusg.org.

Calling All Heroes! In keeping with January's theme on Imagination, we're excited to announce the creation of a Dungeons & Dragons group for teens and teens at heart. No prior experience necessary. The group will meet virtually. If you're up for a quest and a little fun, join our intrepid band of adventurers! Priority will be given to middle and high-school youth, but the game is open to all. Cameo appearances are welcome, too! **When:** Biweekly on Sundays. Next date: January 24. **Time:** 2-5pm. For more information, please contact Brian Doyle at brian@gael-image.com.

BYOL (Lunch) with Rev. Scot: Tuesdays at Noon Rev. Scot will be hosting an open meeting on Zoom each Tuesday at noon. No agenda. No requirements. Come if you can, when you can. Just bring yourself, your concerns, your questions, your stories, your jokes—and your lunch—and join him (and your congregational friends!) in our virtual courtyard for an hour of conversation, connection, and community. Zoom <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5832903665>. Meeting ID: 583 290 3665, Dial by your location: +1 312 626 6799 (Chicago).

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 **March 31**.

Navigating the Year Ahead: Board Statement on UUSG's COVID-19 Reopening Strategy. The Board of Directors has re-visited the June 2020 Board Statement and our plans for moving forward. Please visit our website to read the letter and learn more about UUSG's plan for the future, or read it here: [Updated "Navigating the Year Ahead: Board Statement on UUSG's COVID-19 Reopening Strategy."](#)

Conversations with Rev. Scot, Sundays at 1pm

Rev Scot wants to connect with you! Join him today for the following discussion:

January 17: Minister Coffee

Open Forum! For those of you that think those talk-back sessions are just a tad too short, this is for you. Bring your questions, your curiosity, and a cup of coffee, and we'll chat!

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87896751773>

Social Justice News

Calendar: January 28, Please help provide food for the Aurora Soup Kitchen.

[Sign up here](#).

February 6, Deliver lunch (for 17) or dinner (for 12) to Lazarus House. [Sign up here](#).

Beyond Our Walls for January: Jane Adeny Memorial School (JAMS) in Kenya

When practically all of the schools in Kenya were closed for the pandemic, JAMS was unique – the teachers provided remote learning. They lived at the school and contacted the students twice a week through What's App. The school hand-delivered phones to girls living in the most remote areas of Kenya. As one of the students said recently, the teachers "would contact them and know whether they were alive or dead." Wendy Ochido, the student being sponsored by UUSG, wrote to tell us that she was balancing her classwork and house chores. She has also joined a group doing charity work like "helping the elder people in the village." She noted that "learning at home has been quite difficult" since the schools had only been in session for about a month before COVID closed them. She cannot wait to return to JAMS. Your donation will go towards her 4-year scholarship and to educational software designed for Kenya.