

**An Evening of Folk Music** Join us for an Evening of Folk Music with February Sky on Friday, **January 19, 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. Co-sponsored by the Geneva Park District. More details at [februarysky.com](http://februarysky.com).

**Buddhist Meditation, Sundays, 6-7 PM** Monks from the Blue Lotus Buddhist Temple lead visitors and guests through an hour of meditation and spiritual discussion. All levels of experience are welcome! No cost; donations appreciated. Check email for registration link. Drop-ins are always welcome.

**Your Help is Needed at Lazarus House** Can you give just two nights a year to provide practical goodness in our community? Consider sleeping at Lazarus House (private room, comfortable bed) from 9pm to 7am as part of a team fulfilling UUSG's once-a-month commitment. To learn more, without any obligation, contact [MMckeough@aol.com](mailto:MMckeough@aol.com); 630-262-8449. This might be your opportunity for a meaningful 2024 resolution!

#### **Contact Information**

**Rev. Scot Hull**, Minister

[minister@uusg.org](mailto:minister@uusg.org); 630-232-2350, ext. 103

**Christine Imielski**, Congregational Administrator

[office@uusg.org](mailto:office@uusg.org); 630-232-2350, ext. 100

**Lisa Rittenberry**, Ministries Administrator, [ma@uusg.org](mailto:ma@uusg.org)

**Becky Hruby**, Director of Religious Education

[DRE@uusg.org](mailto:DRE@uusg.org); 630-232-2350, ext. 104

**Lily Geer**, Membership Coordinator, [membership@uusg.org](mailto:membership@uusg.org)

**Cynthia Spiegel**, Music Director

[music@uusg.org](mailto:music@uusg.org)

**Jeff Stibal**, Technical Director

[techdirector@uusg.org](mailto:techdirector@uusg.org)

**Nancy Christensen**, Board President

[boardpresident@uusg.org](mailto:boardpresident@uusg.org)

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

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

- Sunday, December 10**
- 10:00 AM Worship Service 10:00 AM
  - 10:00 AM K-12 Religious Education
  - 11:15 AM Social Justice Sunday Activity
  - 6:00 PM Blue Lotus Buddhist Meditation
- Monday, December 11**
- 1:00 PM Finance Team Meeting *online*
- Tuesday, December 12**
- 9:00 AM Worship Meeting
  - 10:00 AM Staff Meeting
  - 7:00 PM Board of Directors
- Wednesday, December 13**
- 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal
  - 7:00 PM Facilities Team Meeting
- Thursday, December 14**
- 7:00 PM Sacred Texts Study Group
- Friday, December 15**
- 12:00 PM Geezer's Group *off-site*
  - 7:00 PM Fox Valley Electric Auto Assn.
- Saturday, December 16**
- 7:00 PM YRUU Holiday Party
- Sunday, December 17**
- 10:00 AM Worship Service 10:00 AM
  - 8:30 AM Steering Team Meeting
  - 11:30 AM ERT Meeting
  - 6:00 PM Blue Lotus Buddhist Meditation

## **Welcome to This House!**



## **Unitarian Universalist Society of Geneva**

**December 10, 2023**

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

**In the Pulpit:** Guest, Linda Dorr

**Worship Associate:** Diane Gallentine

**Musicians:** Val Heinkel-Bollero, piano; Linda O'Neill, violin; Lara Ward, French horn; Cynthia Spiegel, song leader

**RE: K-2:** Kimberly Harrison, Amanda Slaiher

**3-5:** Katie Yurkewicz, Ro Maziarz

**6-8:** Kerry Sapet, Jenny Montgomery

**9-12:** Ashley Peterson, Barbara Ovesen

**Technical Team:** Jeff Stibal, Director; Cari Gesiakowski, Jamie Carroll, Doreen Rose Mace, Scott Dotson, Gina Grupe-Stibal, Caroline Pickett, Ashley Peterson

### **Upcoming Services:**

**Sunday, December 17:** Christmas Pageant, "A Child of Hope"

**Tuesday, December 19:** Rev. Julia Jones, "Blue Christmas"

**Sunday, December 24:** Christmas Eve Service at 5pm

## Order of Worship

**Prelude** "Overture," Danny Elfman

## Ring the Bell

## Call to Worship

**Hymn of Welcome** #225 "O Come, O Come Emmanuel"

**Hymn of Joy** #347 "Gather the Spirit"

**Hymn of Celebration** #226 "People, Look East"

## Welcoming Words

## Covenant

## Passing the Peace

**Story for All Ages** "Because Nothing Looks Like God" by Lawrence Kushner & Karen Kushner, presented by Barbara Ovesen

*Children and adult leaders leave for religious education*

**Testimonial** Andrea Danis from Mutual Ground

**Prayer of the People** #512 "We Give Thanks This Day"

**Hymn of Comfort** #123 "Spirit of Life"

## Offertory

**Reading** "Unfold Your Own Myth," Rumi

**Responsive Hymn** #1048 "Ubi Caritas"

**Sermon** "Comparative Religion!"

**Closing Hymn** #276 "O Young and Fearless Prophet"

## Benediction

**Sending Music** "God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen," Chip Davis

## Announcements

**Mutual Ground is our BOW** cause for December. Mutual Ground Domestic and Sexual Abuse Shelter provides many services to people throughout Kane and nearby counties: 24-Hour Crisis Hotline: Domestic Violence: 630-897-0080, Sexual Violence: 630-897-8383, Residential Services, Counseling Services, Substance use services, Family Services, Legal advocates, medical advocates, Prevention Educators. Please give generously to this worthy cause.

**Social Justice Sunday Craft** Today, right after the service, we will be making adorable reindeer out of candy canes for the residents at Bria of Geneva nursing home. We need to create about 65 of these cuties, so please pop in the Common Room and join the fun! It should only take about 5 minutes to make one. The initiative is being led by Lily Geer and Becky Hruby, please see one of them for your supplies.

**Mark your calendars for the Yule Dinner** at UUSG! Thursday, December 21, 6-8:30pm. Bring your favorite dish to share and let's enjoy a meal together! Beer, wine, and non-alcoholic beverages will be provided. All ages are welcome to attend. Please contact Lily at [membership@uusg.org](mailto:membership@uusg.org) with questions. Please RSVP to this event no later than Friday, December 15, at [uusg.org/yule](https://uusg.org/yule). Please indicate what dish you will be bringing to share. We are also looking for 4-5 people to help set up and clean up the event. Let us know if you are interested in helping, in the sign-up.

**Sacred Sounds Meditative Drum Circle** Sunday, January 7, 2-4pm in the Sanctuary. Open to all ages interested in playing with a variety of musical instruments to find those meditative rhythms of personal connection and peace. Bring your own drums or try out ours. No musical experience necessary. Contact Gina Grupe-Stibal at [drumcircle@uusg.org](mailto:drumcircle@uusg.org) if you have questions or would like more information.

**One Book One UUSG** Friday, Jan. 12, at 7pm, in the Common Room. Your WOW Team is happy to announce another wonderful literary opportunity for members and friends of UUSG! Our next book: "Station 11," by Emily St. John Mandel. We hope you can join us for a discussion and community time led by Melissa Auer and supported by Carol Myers and Glenda Peck. RSVP to [peckrglenda@gmail.com](mailto:peckrglenda@gmail.com) if you plan to join us so that we may plan accordingly. Snacks and coffee will be available.

## Upcoming Services

**Sunday, December 17:** Join us for another fun and meaningful intergenerational service. "A Child of Hope Pageant" returns with special guest harpist Renee Wilson.

**Tuesday, December 19:** Join us on Zoom, when our guest, Rev. Julia Jones, Minister at the UU Fellowship of DeKalb, hosts a service of song and prayer marking the grief that can coexist with the 'most wonderful' time of the year. Zoom link at [uusg.org/upcoming-services](https://uusg.org/upcoming-services).

**Sunday, December 24:** Christmas Eve Service, 5pm Beginning at 4:30pm in our Common Room join us for fellowship and hot cocoa. At 5pm we will move into the Sanctuary as Rev. Scot, Cynthia, and our UUSG Choir lead us in our family friendly service of 'Lessons and Carols.' Special guest musicians include a string quartet as well as our own Lara Ward on French Horn.

**Sunday, December 31:** New Year's Eve Potluck, 11am. Join your UUSG Community in welcoming in the new year with food and fellowship! In lieu of service this morning, we will be having a potluck. Please rsvp at [uusg.org/nyepotluck](https://uusg.org/nyepotluck).

**Climate Talk: How to Save Money and Save the Planet** Friday, **January 26, 6-8pm**, UUSG Common Room. Join us as we welcome Tom Coleman, Chair of the Chicago Climate Reality Project. Tom will discuss the key steps you and your family can take that will make the biggest impact on the environment and save you money. This presentation is sponsored by the UUSG Green Sanctuary Committee and will be moderated by Tracey McFadden. Pizza will be provided. Sign up at [UUSG.org/climate](https://uusg.org/climate).