

JAN
2021

Parish Notes

The Newsletter of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Concord



Minister's Musings



[Watch and listen to Minister's Musings here.](#)

What Does It Mean to Be a People of Imagination?

Our January theme asks us to explore the role of imagination in our lives - in our inner lives, in our relationships with others, in our institutions, and in our connection to all that is. I think adults too frequently assume that imagination is most properly a realm for children and artists, but that it's something "serious" people outgrow in favor of goals and plans, strategies and scenarios. We commodify imagination and weaponize it, measuring it in terms of productivity, scores, and outcomes. "No child left behind," an imaginative idea of which I heartily approve, becomes a rigid program of performance and penalties that often punishes the very children who need our most sparkling creativity to address their struggles with poverty, racism, disability, and other intractable social problems.

And what of religion? What of God? How is it that humans are all too often willing to kill the neighbor they are commanded to love, in the name of the god who gave them that commandment? Why do families and communities fall apart over arguments about how and whether God is, or isn't, "real"? In Unitarian Universalist circles, where we want to pride ourselves on being radically welcoming and hospitable to diversity, I have seen and heard of deeply hurtful behavior by humanists who pride themselves on being rational, intellectual, and scientific, directed at any whose paths include an understanding of God or spirit or any sort of divine mystery at work in our lives. I have fallen into this trap myself, dismissing any literal belief in Jesus' resurrection as foolishness. I have perused my free copy of The Watchtower and scoffed at the illustration of a utopian community where lions and lambs lie down together; that lion is going to starve, I think to myself, proud of my scientific understanding of lion digestion. The Jehovah's Witness who left it with me could definitely shake her head and wonder at my lack of imagination.

Imagination can be used for good or for evil - it can get us out of trouble or into great danger. It can help us see beauty or filth - in the exact same place. I am looking forward to having rich conversations and exploring deep questions in the weeks ahead - and I hope to engage in my favorite of imaginative activities with you, PLAY!

Happy New Year - may our imagination serve us well in 2021!

Lyn

Rev. Lyn Marshall, Minister of Lifespan Faith Development

CONNECTING IN LOVE AND SERVICE
GROWING SPIRITUALLY
TRANSFORMING OURSELVES AND THE WORLD



Memorial Service Elaine Pinkham Saturday, January 23 @ 4pm | Live Stream

We will livestream a memorial service celebrating and honoring the life of Elaine Pinkham on Saturday, January 23, 2021 at 4 pm. Any congregants interested in sharing a remembrance about Elaine should contact Michael at Michael@ConcordUU.org. We would like to include written or video-recorded messages.



Sunday Morning Schedule

As the pandemic drags on, we keep adapting our Sunday mornings to provide a variety of ways to be socially connected while physically distant. Here is our newest Sunday morning schedule:

9:45am | Pre-Worship Ingathering on [Zoom Link](#)

Once the service starts we will close the Zoom room for the duration of the service.

10:00am | Worship Service [Live Stream Link](#)

- [To connect with others during](#) the service you have a few options:
- Remain in the Ingathering Zoom Room to watch the service together, silently.
- Share your thoughts with those who are in the Zoom Room with you by typing in the Zoom chat.
- Share your thoughts with ALL who are watching by typing in chat that's on the livestream page.

Service end time until 11:30 | Informal Social Hour on [Zoom Link](#)

11:30am to 12:30pm | One or two programs on Zoom

- One program will be in the same Zoom room that Ingathering and Social Hour happened. (You could stay in that room from 9:45 to 12:30 for a complete Sunday morning experience!) [Main Zoom Link](#)
- On second and third Sundays each month, there will be a Spiritual Practice in our "Zoom Meditation Hall." Guided meditation or movement practices such as yoga will be offered. [Second Zoom Link](#)
- The Second Hour program Zoom links are available at <https://concorduu.org/after-service-offerings/> by Sunday morning. They are usually also in your eBulletin.

January Worship Services

Live stream our worship services at concorduu.org/live

1/3/2021 “Six Impossible Things Before Breakfast,” Rev. Lyn Marshall

Our January worship theme is Imagination. When Alice, during her adventures in Wonderland, tells the Queen that one can't believe impossible things, the Queen replies, “I daresay you haven't much practice.... Why, sometimes I've believed as many as six impossible things before breakfast.” How does human imagination intersect with a life of faith? How does YOUR imagination contribute to, or detract from, your experiences as a part of a faith community?

Our first Sunday drop-in covenant group will focus on our monthly theme of “Imagination.” All are invited to participate. Rev. Lyn Marshall will facilitate.

1/10/2021 “Imagination to the Rescue,” Rev. Michael Leuchtenberger

Feeling stuck and in a rut? In a relationship? At work? At home? In retirement? Relating to yourself? Feeling stuck in the societal rut of polarization and all its manifestations? Imagination to the rescue, along with some courage. Or in the words of G.K. Chesterton: “Fairy Tales are more than true; not because they tell us that dragons exist, but because they tell us dragons can be beaten.” We will look for inspiration in stories of creative “rut escapes” and “dragon taming.”

1/17/2021 “I Dream a World,” Rev. Michael Leuchtenberger

Langston Hughes has been called the poet laureate of the African-American experience — a visionary writer of the Harlem Renaissance who gave hopeful expression to the aspirations of the oppressed, even as he decried racism and injustice. His powerful poetry and prose continues to speak to the dream of Martin Luther King, Jr., the Black Lives Matter movement, and, of course, his own dreams captured in such powerful poems as “I Dream a World” which our choir will sing with music set by André J. Thomas. Come and learn about the life and work of Langston Hughes and how what he imagined remains relevant for us today.

1/24/2021 “When Your Imagination Flows,” Rev. Michael Leuchtenberger

Legendary psychologist Mihaly Csikszentmihalyi observes that experiences are genuinely satisfying when we are in a state of consciousness called flow. During flow, we typically experience deep enjoyment, creativity, and a total involvement with life. And it is a state that can be controlled, not just left to chance. How does creativity move in you? How does imagination manifest in your life? How is it inspired? What impact does it have on you and on the world? If you have a story or reflection to share, please let Michael know.

1/31/2021 “The God of our Imagination,” Rev. Michael Leuchtenberger

Humanity has imaged the divine in a myriad of ways - as a comforting presence, as a life-giving, creative force, as a connected web of all existence, as a mental construct projecting and reflecting our human struggles and aspirations. And much more. How do YOU imagine God / Goddess / the Gods? What role does God play in YOUR life? How do YOU experience the divine? Please let Michael know. This service is all about you and what you have to share - by word, visual art, music, or movement.



Building Maintenance Committee Update

Submitted by Trudy Mott-Smith

The beavers of the Building Maintenance Committee are the exception to the principle in nature that beavers do not hibernate in winter. The Committee, having completed by mid-fall the maintenance projects it had determined to be most essential, suspended meetings until they can be held in person inside the building or out of doors. The decision of the Pandemic Policy Team to prepare Fellowship Hall for small-group use when the risk of infection drops to a phase lower than the present phase 4 has put off to March or April the Committee's ongoing investigation into the best way to improve ventilation of the sanctuary. Many features of the building's HVAC system have been researched and identified for the PPT and the BMC by Franz Vail, a member of the Committee.

UU Friends of Refugees Update

Submitted by Christina Oliva

UU Friends of Refugees, thank you to our generous church community for the outpouring of support for this year's Giving Tree project! A small team of us purchased and distributed presents to 64 Concord children from 29 different families. The surprises and smiles were big! We hope your Holiday Season feels more joyous because of the joy you shared with others in our community. Be safe and stay strong!

P.S. Stayed tuned for UUFOR book group in 2021! We will focus on reading non-fiction and fiction about the various home countries of our New American friends. Send book recommendations to Christina Oliva at oliva.christina@yahoo.com.



Pandemic Policy Team Update

Submitted by Lea Smith

Franz Vail has investigated several ventilation options to achieve our goal of 4 air exchanges per hour, including UV light in the ductwork, portable air purifiers, and energy recovery units for rooms that don't already have them. Each room may need a slightly different solution, and any option is going to be expensive.

With vaccines on the horizon, it does not make sense to fix every single room. Therefore, the PPT is currently focusing on Fellowship Hall, because it already has some ventilation, it is big enough for social distancing, and it can be configured in a variety of ways for meetings, meditations, and even worship. If we can improve its current ventilation to 4 exchanges per hour, Fellowship Hall would be available for gatherings as soon as COVID transmission lessens to "moderate" in our area. (It is currently "substantial.") We are looking to hire an engineer to analyze Fellowship Hall's current ventilation system, and suggest the best way to get to 4 exchanges.

We are also developing a job description for COVID Safety Monitors. Any group meeting will need to have a Safety Monitor to ensure attendance is taken and that health requirements such as masks and distancing are observed.



Jackbox.TV

Saturday, January 2 @ 6 PM

Join us for a new experience playing different games online together. Our Office Administrator Heidi Page's son Christian will host and help explain how it works. Up to 8 players will be playing a game and others can watch and cheer on the players. We will be playing while in a Zoom room to make it more fun by interacting.

Grab a Mobile Device and Join in on the FUN!!

Video: [How to play Jackbox Games](#)

[Join Zoom Room to Start](#)

Meeting ID: 717 813 038 **Passcode:** 724618

Connect to the games on your phone or tablet at: [Jackbox.tv](https://jackbox.tv)



A Choir Update for the New Year

Submitted by Kate Huizinga

The Choir participated in a combined virtual choir performance of Stables, a piece written by Peter Mayer and arranged by Jason Shelton. It was performed with Harbor Unitarian Universalist Congregation, my home church located in Muskegon, Michigan. We were fortunate enough to have Peter Mayer join us for a rehearsal to talk about the meaning of this piece and how he came about writing it. We also met a lot of new people and loved making the connection with HUUC!

I am so thankful and proud of the choir members for participating in these virtual videos, recordings, and rehearsals. What amazing things can be done virtually with music!



InTown Concord Winter Fest January 29 & 30

InTown Concord is excited to announce that Winter Fest will be returning to Concord for its third year in a row! Spectators will enjoy watching ice-carving demonstrations and meeting some of New England's most talented ice carvers. S'mores and hot cocoa will also be served!

To enter the 3rd Annual Winter Fest Ice Carving Competition, [click here](#)

If you or a business you know is interested in sponsoring the event, [click here](#)

Any questions please feel free to contact Haylie Stoddard, at events@Intown-Concord.org

All Spectators Will Be Expected To Wear Masks and Keep Social Distancing Per State and City Guidelines

New Year's Community and Self-Guided Silent Retreat Day

Saturday, January 9 | 9 am to 5 pm | [Registration for Zoom](#)

Submitted by Jeanne Ann Whittington

The first event offered by the Contemplative Practices Group each year is one of the simplest—a Self-Guided Silent Retreat Day. It has been a day of silent group meditation practice, in our beloved Chapel, on one of the first Saturdays of the year. It is a time for pausing, for joining together in companionable quiet at a time when the world outside is mostly quiet as well, and for each person to structure their daylong (or partial-day) retreat as works best for them.

This year's retreat will be different, but very similar in character. Having offered retreats in various formats in the past 9 months—including a weekend, a day-long, a half-day and a number of 2 hour “Centering Saturday” morning retreats, we have learned that retreats done at home, connected via Zoom, are quite powerful and meaningful. And they have a special power by virtue of participants being AT HOME, the prime location where a more mindful presence would be most welcome!

This year's retreat will begin at 9 AM and end at 5 PM on Saturday, January 9, and has a schedule that will be sent in advance (along with the Zoom link) to anyone who registers. Everyone is invited to join for any part of the day, or for the entire day. Periods of sitting and walking meditation will be marked by bells rung by practice leaders, and each period of sitting practice will be initiated by 15 minutes of guided practice led by different members of our community. (See the schedule on the next page.) Guided practices will include basic meditation instructions, lovingkindness meditation, breath work, movement, and sound meditation.

We are looking forward to having this opportunity to begin the New Year with some time for gathering, for sitting in silence together, for exploring brief practices together, and with time for sharing at the beginning and end of the day. All are invited to join for any or all of the day!

To register [click here](#) or just go to the [Contemplative Practices page](#) of the church website and look for the link.

Retreat Schedule for Saturday, January 9

- 9:00 am Gathering, w/brief check-ins/sharing (*Jeanne Ann Whittington*)
- 9:15 am Official beginning of retreat (*Kim Gillis*),
Guided Meditation (*Betsy Black*)
- 9:30 am Sitting
- 10:15 am Walking
- 10:45 am Guided Breath work (*Lorna Tobin*)
- 11:00 am Sitting
- 11:45 am Lunch/Walking
- 12:45 pm Guided Movement (*Judi Abbe*)
- 1:00 pm Sitting
- 1:45 pm Walking
- 2:15 pm Guided Sound Meditation (*Craig Whitson & Linda Mai*)
- 2:30 pm Sitting
- 3:15 pm Walking
- 3:45 pm Guided Loving Kindness Meditation (*Jeanne Ann Whittington*)
- 4:00 pm Sitting
- 4:45 pm Closing, optional Zoom sharing (*Jeanne Ann, Kim, Sarah*)
- 5:00 pm End

Meet Our New Members



NICOLE HERBST

Thank you to my neighbor, Joe Sewell, for introducing me to this wonderful church and all of its wonderful people! I appreciate all of the activities to explore and opportunities to contribute.

I am originally from Connecticut, where my Mom still lives. I have lived in New England and the Pacific Northwest, and I currently live in North Weare with my dog and 2 cats. Formerly an avid soccer player and ski racer, I now prefer to walk my dog Tasha in the woods, hike, snowshoe, and create crystal healing bracelets.

As a Senior Trust Officer for NHTrust in Concord, I help individuals, families, towns, and philanthropic organizations reach their financial goals through wealth management, financial planning, and estate planning.

I am excited to be a part of the pastoral care associate and covenant programs!

FRAN HOPPER

I've been a UU Friend for five years and am really happy to become a member of this vibrant church. It's been wonderful to meet so many like-minded people who really live their values. I love Buddhism and have been participating in UU's Contemplative Practices program. I've also volunteered in the Family Promise program. I grew up in Delaware, and my family was Quaker. I moved to New Hampshire with my husband and our two sons in 1982. Luckily, our sons have stayed in NH. I also have two stepdaughters who live in Montpelier and New York. I'm retired now. I previously worked as a counselor and educator for nonprofits serving low-income people in the areas of family planning, HIV/AIDS, and Head Start. I love working with refugees and have volunteered as an English-as-a-Second-Language teacher and general volunteer. Some favorite pastimes are reading, taking walks in the woods, and bird-watching.



CAMILLE MELLIN

Hello everyone! My name is Camille and I was born in Atlanta, Georgia, but mostly grew up in Knoxville, Tennessee. Go Vols! I moved to New Hampshire in 2015 because my husband is from Nashua and I love cold weather and snow - still! We live with our dog, Kennedy, and two cats, Johnson and Jefferson.

I recently returned to school to study history. I hope to one day research and teach medieval theology. I am currently a homemaker and loving every second of it! Also, I'm an aspiring novelist. I am currently working on an adult dark fantasy book.

I was looking for a church that was involved in the social justice movements that are important to me, and that was accepting of myself and my husband who are both on the LGBT+ spectrum. I also practice Hoodoo, and I wanted a space where I would not feel judged by my peers.

There are several groups I would love to join and be an active member of including the Book Club, Earth-Centered Spirituality Group, and many of the Contemplative Practices Groups. I would love to be a part of a knitting group where we go somewhere like a public library (when it is safe of course!) to further expand my connection with people within the church. I'm currently in a covenant group and I absolutely love it.

SUE POSLUSZNY

My parents and brother were born in Portugal and then settled in Manhattan which is where I was born. Raised in a bilingual family, I speak Portuguese fluently although I never learned to read or write in Portuguese (maybe one day!). You wouldn't know about my Portuguese background with my married name of Posluszny but my maiden name, Bacalhau, actually means cod fish in Portuguese.

Our family moved to New Jersey when I was 1 year old and lived there throughout my school years. I attended grade school on up to college and then graduate school in NJ eventually earning a graduate degree in counseling psychology. Like most undergraduate students, I experimented



Meet Our New Members

with different interests and found myself mesmerized by the book, *What Color is Your Parachute*, which eventually led me to that graduate degree and work as a professional career counselor. I served as the Director of the Career Center at Rivier University (it was Rivier College then) for 18 years and also had a private practice in which I served college bound teens and adults in career transition. At present, I provide both academic and career advising to students at NHTI, Concord's Community College.

I met my future husband, Paul, as an undergrad in New Jersey. We moved to New Hampshire in the late 80's and eventually settled in New Boston, NH. Our son Kyle (now 26 years old), lives with us along with our two kitties, Kyla (guess who named her) and Gracie.

As for hobbies, I love creative arts and have engaged in a wide variety of arts and crafts over the years including calligraphy, knitting, basket making, weaving, jewelry making, drawing and my latest passion of multi-media art work. I also love fitness and wellness related activities including weight training, yoga, Pilates, Essentrics, Reiki, mindfulness meditation, and more. On a 'quirky' note, I love film studies including silent movies.

While I was raised Catholic, I have always enjoyed learning about and exploring different religious and spiritual beliefs and practices including mindfulness meditation and Buddhist philosophy. About a year ago, I was searching for local meditation classes and happened upon the UU Church of Concord's website. As I looked over all that was happening at this Church, I couldn't help but think, 'These are my peeps!'. I loved the open acceptance to all views and faiths and, with all the activities listed (within the church and beyond), could also see the extent to which a call to action was prominent. I attended some Church services, events, and retreats and even volunteered to serve as a Caring Circle Lead when COVID hit (I was a friend of the Church then). Now I'm psyched to say that I've gone through the Exploring Membership class and I've made the commitment to become a member. I am excited to become part of this UU Church community and look forward to meeting other members over time.

LORNA TOBIN

I am originally from the East End of Long Island, New York. I moved to Concord, NH in November of 2014. I absolutely love New England.

I worked in the fitness industry and healing arts my whole career as a Certified Personal Trainer, Certified Aerobics Instructor, Certified Nutritionist, Reiki practitioner and meditation teacher. I also worked in the service industry as a waitress to supplement my income. I have credentials in a healing modality called Transformational Breathwork, a powerful self-healing process using a conscious, connected breathing pattern that creates great transformation in one's life on all levels, mentally/emotionally, physically, and spiritually. I have been practicing, teaching, lecturing on this work for 25+ years.

I completed the MBSR course here at the UU church in 2015 and I have participated in many of the meditation retreats and groups offered. I have been studying Ashtanga yoga and Ayurveda since 2009. I traveled to India in 2012 for the first time and lived in a small town called Gokulum in Mysore, India where I studied Ashtanga yoga philosophy, Sanskrit, and Ayurveda. My plan was to travel to India and live there for the Winter months, but the Universe had other plans for me. I was in a tragic car accident in May 2013 that changed my life and the trajectory of it in a heartbeat. It has been over 7 years since that day. It was one of the greatest personal growth experiences of my life. I went back to school at NHTI in 2016 to get a degree in Human Services with a focus in Substance Use Disorder as I can no longer do the physical work I did my whole career that supported me financially. I graduated in May 2019, got my first job January 2020, post-graduation with a Human Services organization in Concord working with moms who suffer with Substance Use when I was laid off with COVID.

Presently, I am working part-time at the local YMCA and building an online business as a health and wellness coach. Trying to figure out life living in the age of COVID.

I have an attitude of gratitude towards life and look to ask myself how have I grown, extracting meaning from adversity and suffering. I look to find value, growth and learning in all the adversity life can throw at us. It has taken me much inner work to come to this place in my heart. I find great value in the contemplative practices the UU offers our community. It is these practices that help support me to connect with the compassion I carry in my heart for myself and others. *Namaste'*





JANUARY BIRTHDAY WISHES

01Franz Vail

02Grace Feigl

02Jane Lemeland

03.....Anne Drewniak

04Craig Whitson

06Lisa Eberhart

07Brooke Hull

08Fiona Burlock

08Sara McNeil

15Archer Stratton

16Serenity Downs

17Linda Ashford

18Annabel Taylor

21Nola Rocco

22Cora Kennard

24Zari Beaulé

25David Elberfeld

25Hailey Hartford

25Zachary Taylor

26Cali Mahon

27Dariel Thompson

28Jennessa Brown

28Karen Cox

28Beth Gabrielli

29Scott Desmarais

30Margaret Fletcher

31.....Emma Fleischman

31.....Perry Stratton

Taizé Service

Second Sundays @ 7 pm

(October to April)

Live Streaming

ConcordUU.org/live



Join us for an hour of

Meditative Singing

with instruments,

a brief reading, silence, and candlelight.

“A time of beauty and peace for body & spirit.”

A contemplative and spiritual experience
for people of any faith tradition or none. All are welcome!



JANUARY Special Events

Please see our calendar online for the most up-to-date listing of events happening:

www.concorduu.org/calendar

Remember to keep your eBulletin for private Zoom links

All meetings & rehearsals are through Zoom unless otherwise noted.

Links are available through private emails or public calendar listings.

2021

Friday, 1/1/2021 @ 2:30 PM

NEW YEARS DAY Hike & Bon Fire

[Preregistration Required](#)

Saturday, 1/2 @ 6 PM | [JackBox Game Party](#)

Sunday, 1/3 @ 8:30 PM | [Zoom](#)

POP parents of preschoolers

Saturday, 1/9 | 9 AM-5 PM | [Zoom](#)

Silent Self-Guided Meditation

Sunday, 1/10 @ 7 PM | [Live Stream](#) | **Taize**

Sunday, 1/17 @ 1 PM

Exploring Membership Group #1

Saturday, 1/23

Memorial Service for Elaine Pinkham

Chat Room Before Service @ 3:45 PM | [Zoom](#)

Memorial Service @ 5 PM | [Live Stream](#)

Reception After Service @ approx 6 PM | [Zoom](#)

Sunday, 1/24 @ 1 PM

Exploring Membership Group #2

New Year's Day Hike | Jan 1 | Hike @ 2:30 PM



New Year's Bonfire | Jan 1 | After Hike



Silent Self-Guided Meditation | Jan 9 | 9A-5P | Zoom



Growing Spiritually

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Office Currently Closed

Merrimack County is currently in the red for COVID cases. Due to higher transmission our office is closed to appointments. Please do not hesitate to reach out if we can help you in any way, we can be reached my email or phone at (lea@concorduu.org or 603-224-0291 ext 4#) or Heidi at (heidi@concorduu.org or 603-224-0291 ext 2#).

We miss you all very much and hope that we can gather again in the not too distant future.

Parish Notes Deadline Schedule:

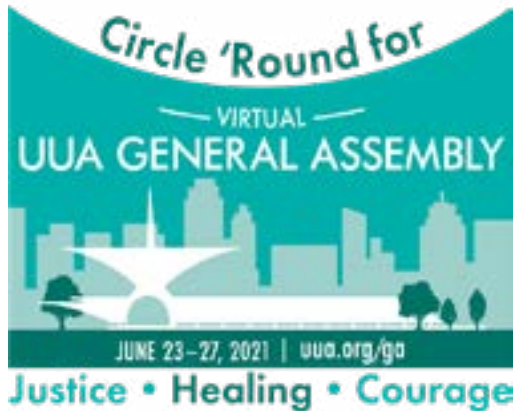
ISSUE	DUE
FEB 2021	Mon. Jan. 18

Please email articles and images by end of day to ParishNotes@ConcordUU.org

eBulletin

Information for the upcoming week's events, happenings, and announcements are due at 6 pm on Wednesdays of each week.

Please email short articles and images to ebulletin@ConcordUU.org



UUA GA 2021 WILL BE VIRTUAL!

The UUA Board of Trustees passed a resolution making the 2021 UUA General Assembly a 100% virtual event. Let's reach record-breaking attendance on June 23-27, 2021. Registration opens December 1, 2020.

Why Virtual General Assembly? General Assembly is the annual gathering of Unitarian Universalists, where we conduct business of

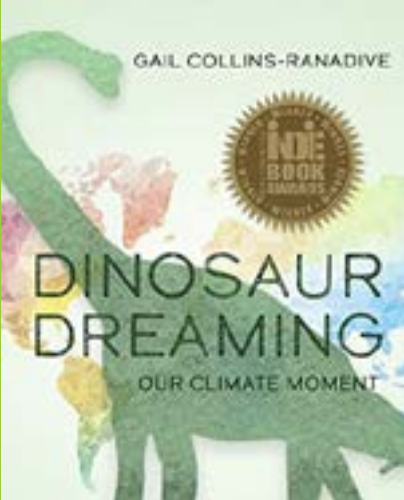
the Association, explore the theological underpinnings of our faith, and lean fully into our mission and principles. That remains true even when we cannot gather physically. Last year, GA had more than 4,900 registered attendees participate from remote locations around the world. Although we give up the face-to-face interaction and hugs that are prevalent when we meet in-person, we retain our dedication to community and make our experience more accessible and more environmentally sustainable.

"Circle 'Round for Justice • Healing • Courage" is the theme for GA 2021. General Assembly is a time to circle 'round in community. We circle 'round in care and healing; for liberation and justice; and for love and courage. We share stories of the work happening at our Association, and in our congregations. We study ways to implement and live into our mission. UUA GA 2021 will incorporate recommendations from the Commission on Institution Change report, "Widening the Circle of Concern" and dialogue with the Article II Commission about our Principles and Purposes. Through programs and workshops, professional and lay leaders will learn and develop skills to equip them with tools to continue the mission of our faith. Featured speakers will delve into theological analysis, work around organizing for liberation, and the ways we tend our spiritual resilience. Honoring the myriad of communities within Unitarian Universalism, there will be more time for networking, meetups and caucusing over the span of our 5-days together. Finally, during GA 2021, we will preserve our connection to Milwaukee and the MidAmerica Region through special programming and activities. Get ready to Circle 'Round...

Registration opened December 1, 2020. Registration for virtual GA 2021 is \$200 per person. Financial support for registration as well as a payment plan are available. General Assembly registrants receive access to the 2021 Online Participation Portal, including live, simulive, and on-demand video content, the virtual exhibit hall, chat features, support, and a (new!) GA mobile app.

Stay tuned! The call for program proposals will be coming soon! Proposals will be in two phases. Phase 1: Due January 15. Phase 2: Due January 29.

Visit uua.org/ga for more information or email meetingplanner@uua.org.



Dinosaur Dreaming: Our Climate Moment

by retired UU minister Gail Collins Ranadive. “A vivid snapshot of our present predicaments and powerful lifelines in addressing the biggest challenge humanity has ever faced.”

- Aly Tharp, UUMFE Program Director

UUA Volunteers Needed: Apply by Jan. 15

What’s your vision for Unitarian Universalism?

The Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA) seeks **visionary and flexible Unitarian Universalists to serve the committees, commissions, and boards** that work with staff and the UUA Board of Trustees to carry out the mission of the Association.

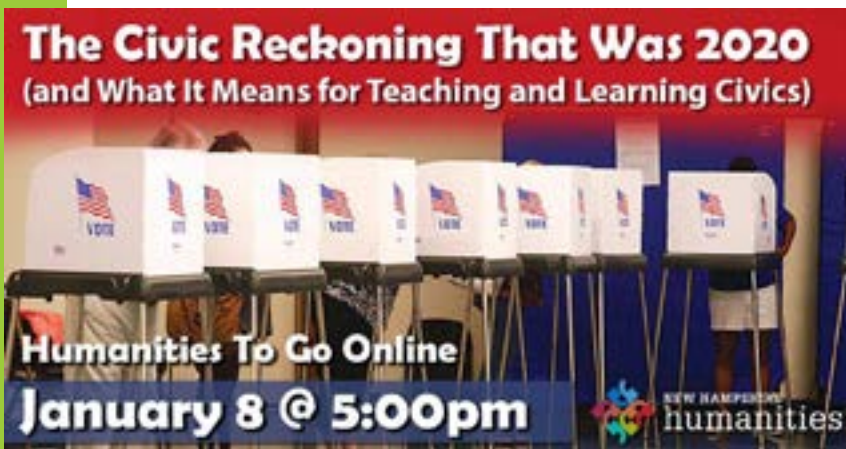
More than 150 volunteers serve across 25 UUA boards, commissions, committees, and panels annually.

We’re actively [recruiting to fill openings](#) on the several volunteer bodies—**Board of Trustees, Commission on Appraisal, General Assembly Planning Committee and others**—to be elected into position at General Assembly in June 2021. Applications of interest are due by **January 15, 2021**.

Other volunteer roles—such as **Audit and Risk, Presidential Search, Retirement Plan, and more**—accept applications on a rolling basis. If you’d like to serve, but are unsure of where your skills would be of best use, you can also [complete a general interest form](#).

The Civic Reckoning That Was 2020 (and What It Means for Teaching and Learning Civics)

Friday, January 8 at 5:00 pm | [Register Here](#)



Get ready for this audience-interactive online program on the civic principles at the center of 2020’s meltdown. Dianna Gahlsdorf Terrell, Ph.D. (Saint Anselm College) will lead this talk on core democratic principles, how they are — and can be — taught in New Hampshire’s classrooms, and what civic knowledge must be most durable to withstand our democracy’s more challenging times.

Join us for this free, online program!

Unitarian Universalist Church of Concord

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www.concorduu.org

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



<https://sidewithlove.org/thirty-days-of-love>

Thirty Days of Love is our annual celebration that runs approximately from Martin Luther King, Jr. Day in January through Valentine's Day in February. It is an opportunity to lift up the ways Unitarian Universalists and many of our partner organizations are building and organizing by taking bold, courageous action for intersectional racial justice.

In 2021, 30 Days of Love will focus on four themes from a recently published report called Widening the Circle of Concern, which was developed by the Commission on Institutional Change, a UUA Board commissioned group charged with researching, reporting, and making recommendations for transforming white supremacy and other oppressions in

the institutional history and practices of the UUA and its 1,000-plus congregations and covenanted communities. The themes pulled from the report for 30 Days of Love are:

- **Living Our Values in the World (January 17 – 23)**
- **Hospitality and Inclusion (January 24 – 30)**
- **Educating for Liberation (January 31 – February 6)**
- **Restoration and Reparations (February 7 – 13)**

The 30 Days will culminate with a livestreamed Side With Love Sunday worship — our 12th annual! — on February 14. Finally, 30 Days of Love aspires to be multigenerational and intergenerational.

Each week, we will share a 'playlist' or 'menu' of activities for individuals to interact with, connected with our weekly theme. We will have playlists for adults, youth, young adults, and multigenerational participation which will include activities in the categories of Read, Watch, Participate, Listen, and Worship.

We'll be posting our materials in the first week of January. Be sure to follow Side with Love on Facebook for updates.