

## Winter Weather Closing Policy

Because we're a regional congregation, with many of our folks traveling a considerable distance to get to Geneva, we do have a policy for winter weather.

If the wind chill in the greater Chicago area is colder than 40 degrees below zero, or if travel advisories have been issued because of snow or wind, we cancel all church events, including any committee meetings, office hours, Sunday morning religious education, and Sunday worship services. During the week, if you're not sure about the severity of the weather, please check with your group's convener before heading for a winter meeting.

If Sunday activities are canceled, we'll try to get that information onto our homepage and the Congregational Administrator's voicemail message (call the church office at 630-232-2350 and then press 1-0-0 to hear the message). But when in doubt, please stay home!

### Contact Information

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## Today & This Week at UUSG

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

### Sunday, December 31 Office Closed

- 10:00 am Worship & Potluck Brunch
- 11:15 am Big Ideas Covenant Group

### Monday, January 1 Office Closed

- 1:00 pm Women's Circle Planning Meeting
- 7:30 pm Technology Team Meeting

### Tuesday, January 2

Congregational Administrator on Vacation Through 1/4

- 10:30 am Staff Meeting

### Wednesday, January 3

- 7:00 pm UU Buddhism Meditation & Study Group

### Thursday, January 4

- 7:00 pm Foxfire Pan Pagan Earth Circle

### Friday, January 5

### Saturday, January 6

### Sunday, January 7

- 10:30 am Commit to Knit
- 11:15 am Big Ideas Covenant Group
- 12:30 pm Green Sanctuary Team Postcard Event
- 12:45 pm Ministry on Ministries Meeting
- 2:15 pm Worship Planning Team Meeting

## Welcome to This House!



*December 31, 2017*

## Unitarian Universalist Society of Geneva

PO Box 107, 102-112 S. 2nd St.  
Geneva, IL 60134, 630-232-2350  
[www.uusg.org](http://www.uusg.org)  
[www.facebook.com/uusg1](http://www.facebook.com/uusg1)

### Today's Worship Team

Worship Associate: Melissa Auer  
Musician: Dean Malambri  
Counters: Tom Haslett, Martha Tabis

### Upcoming Services

January 7: the Rev. Dr. Lindsay Bates  
January 14: the Rev. Dr. Lindsay Bates

*Come as you are.*

## **Ingathering Music, Ringing of the Church Bell & Call to Worship**

**Song of Community** # 345 “With Joy We Claim the Growing Light”

## **Welcome & Congregational Greetings**

## **Our Community’s Announcements**

## **Rin Gong & Lighting of the Chalice**

**Prelude** *Snowfall*, Thornhill and Thornhill

## **Chalice Words**

## **Song of Praise**

**Antiphonal Reading** # 544 “New Year’s Day,”  
(Kathleen McTigue)

## **Our Covenant**

## **Doxology**

## **Offertory Introduction**

**Offering** *What Are You Doing This New Year’s Eve?* Loesser

## **Pastoral Prayer & Silent Meditation**

**Responsive Music** *Lo, How a Rose E’er Blooming*, 15th  
Century German Carol

## **Readings, Part I**

**The Wheel of the Year** (Rev. Lindsay Bates)

**A Cautionary Tale** (Rev. Frank Rivas)

**Hymn** # 56 “Bells in the High Tower”

## **Readings, Part II**

**The Lump of Coal** (Lemony Snicket)

**Hymn** # 57 “All Beautiful the March of Days”

## **Readings, Part III**

**Looking for the Lock** (Rev. Robert Fulghum)

**Ancient Mother’s Lists** (Rev. Lindsay Bates)

## **On Releasing the Old, Inviting the New: The Fire Ritual**

## **Interlude**

## **Chant for the Fire of the Turning Year**

Mystery, set me free;  
let me be who I’m meant to be.

## **Prayer for the Fires**

adapted from the Rev. Edward Hays

## **Burning the Past, Lighting the Future**

## **Closing Prayer**

**Unison Closing** # 498, (Howard Thurman)

**Postlude** *Auld Lang Syne*, traditional

## **Benediction & Extinguishing the Chalice**

## **Announcements**

**We will resume our Social Hour on Sunday, January 7**, with thanks to our MOM & Heritage Teams for hosting.

**Staff Time Off** Christine Imielski will be on vacation January 2-4.

**Reduce. Reuse. Recycle.** Shop New2U. Good for the environment; good for UUSG. Find New2U at [uusg.org/New2U](http://uusg.org/New2U).

**Found: Wedding Ring.** Please contact Christine at [office@uusg.org](mailto:office@uusg.org) if you have lost a ring.

**The efficiency of our heating system** at UUSG relies heavily on the free flow of air from area to area. Please leave all doors open, including hallway and kitchen doors.

**Green Sanctuary Team:** Save Your Styrofoam! Just in time for the holidays, the GST has arranged to have a Blue Recycle Container placed on the back porch, exclusively for styrofoam.

**“Beyond Our Walls”** This month, we’re collecting for our “Holiday Lights” Fund which will support the Literacy Volunteers of Fox Valley Trivia Bee, and to provide gifts to the YRUU Habitat for Humanity Family. You do not need to decide which of the two to support. All will benefit from your contribution unless you target your donation to one of the causes. Write checks to “UUSG” with “BOW” in the memo line.

**Get Involved With Interweave** Interweave is a local group of LGBTQ members, friends, and allies who meet once a month for discussions and special events. We will meet Sunday January 21, at 12:30pm. We will also be planning for our February and March LGBTQ church activities leading up to the annual LGBTQ service scheduled for March 4. For information please contact Lynn Steele at [interweave.leader@uusg.org](mailto:interweave.leader@uusg.org).

**End-of-year Contributions** Donors must deliver checks today, to claim a charitable contribution deduction for 2017. Checks that are placed in the church offering during the first worship service in 2018, will not qualify for a charitable contribution deduction in 2017, even if the check is predated to 2017, or was written in 2017.

**Join us for an Evening of Folk Music** with February Sky on Friday, January 12, at 7pm in the Sanctuary. February Sky features traditional singer and Celtic guitarist Phil Cooper with songwriter and singer Susan Urban. Sponsored by the Geneva Park District. More details at [februarysky.com](http://februarysky.com).

**The Nominating Committee** is looking for a few good people. We’re building a list of members who are “warm” to the idea of serving on the Board. If you’re interested in being on that list, please send an email to Jim Frazier, at [nominating@uusg.org](mailto:nominating@uusg.org).

**UUSG is now collaborating with St Charles Episcopal** on our joint mission to feed the needy in Kane County. They help us with Lazarus House meals and we help with their Soup Kitchen. Please see sign-up for info or contact Martha Tabis.

**Please check out the Lost & Found** table in the Common Room. Anything left on January 7, will go to Good Will.