

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 at uusg.org as soon as possible. But when in doubt, please stay home!

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Today & This Week at UUSG

uusg.org/calendar

Sunday, December 9

- 11:15 am Big Ideas Covenant Group
- 11:15 am Finance Team Meeting
- 12:30 pm Green Sanctuary Team Meeting
- 1:00 pm Planned Giving Discussion
- 2:00 pm Steeple Walk

Monday, December 10

- 11:30 am Women's Circle Planning Meeting
- 4:00 pm Steeple Walk Meeting
- 7:00 pm Reiki Discussion Group

Tuesday, December 11

- 9:30 pm Geneva Girl Scout Leader Meeting
- 10:00 am Women's Circle Planning Meeting
- 10:30 am Staff Meeting
- 7:00 pm Board of Directors

Wednesday, December 12

- 7:00 pm Facilities Team Meeting

Thursday, December 13

- 6:00 pm Dungeons & Dragons Group (off-site)
- 6:00 pm Youth Outlook
- 7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal

Friday, December 14

Saturday, December 15

- 9:00 am Pageant Rehearsal
- 1:00pm IYC Holiday Party (off-site)

Sunday, December 16

- 11:15 am Big Ideas Covenant Group
- 12:30 pm Interweave
- 1:00 pm Mental Health Ministry Presentation
- 1:00 pm Welcoming Team Meeting
- 7:00 pm Reiki Share

Welcome to This House!



December 9, 2018

Unitarian Universalist Society of Geneva

December's Theme: Hope

Today's Worship Team

In the Pulpit: Rev. Jennifer Innis
Worship Associates: Pat Vary, Roxanne Willis
Musician: Tom Zimmerman, Mary Phillips
Counters: The Finance Team

Upcoming Services

December 16: Intergenerational Holiday Pageant
December 23: Intergenerational Yuletide Service

Come as you are.

Order of Worship

Ingathering Music

Ringling of the Church Bell and Call to Worship

***Song of Community** # 396 “I Know This Rose Will Open”

Words of Welcome

Community Announcements

Congregational Greetings

Enter into Shared Silence at the sound of the Rin Gong.

Prelude *Pieds-en-l'air*, Peter Warlock

Chalice Lighting

***Song of Praise** (see words inside front of gray hymnal)

***Antiphonal Reading** # 99 *Lifting Our Voices*, Friedman

Spirit of Life and Love,
we live in a fragmented world that tempts us to despair.
*We would put it back together, piece by piece,
if it were ours to choose.*

But sometimes the fragments are enough.

In a world of cruelty,
there is still power in every act of kindness.

In a time of doubt,
there is still power in every act of hope.

In an age of division,
there is still power in every act of unity.

May we remember that sometimes the fragments of meaning
we make are just the right size to hold in our hands.

***Our Covenant** (see words inside front of gray hymnal)

***Doxology** (see words inside front of gray hymnal)

Intro to the Offering

Offering *Pavanne*, Peter Warlock

Sacred Story

Children & teachers leave for religious education classes.

Children's Departing Song: *As You Go*, Nancy Belt

“As you go, may love surround you, may truth be your guide,
may peace be in your heart.”

Pastoral Prayer & Silent Meditation

Musical Response *Soeur Monique*, Francois Couperin

Readings “Hope,” from *Spiritual Literacy*, Brussat

***Hymn** # 348 “Guide My Feet”

Sermon “Hope Made Manifest”

***Hymn** # 347 “Gather the Spirit”

***Unison Closing** # 456 “Extinguishing the Chalice”

***Sending Our Light into the World**

***Benediction**

Please be seated for our Postlude

Postlude *Tambourin*, Jean-Philippe Rameau

*In body or in spirit, please stand as you are willing and able **

Announcements

Staff Time Off Rev. Jennifer & Rev. Patrick will be on vacation December 25 - January 4. Our Congregational Administrator, Christine Imielski, will be out of the office December 23 - 25 & December 31 - January 1. Office hours December 26 - January 4, are by appointment only. Please email Christine at office@uusg.org for questions. Thank you!

Stewardship Team Hosts Planned Giving Discussion Ted Kuczek of Kuczek & Associates will be giving a presentation on: will & living trust planning, charitable giving strategies, tax efficient charitable planning, and more. Please join us **today**, at 1pm, in the Common Room. All are welcome.

Steeple Walk Today, at 2pm. UUSG and three other Geneva churches will host Steeple Walk. The program includes music at each venue with a guided stroll between the churches. Please contact Gail Tattersfield for tickets (\$15/each). Cynthia Spiegel, soprano, Elena Spiegel, violin, and Angela Salvaggione, piano, will perform at UUSG.

Mental Health Ministry Presentation December 16, at 1pm, Colleen Cushing and the Mental Health Ministry will present on the topic of recently approved and experimental treatments for depression and anxiety. Colleen will present on topics such as TMS (transcranial magnetic stimulation), vagus nerve stimulation, ketamine, and research into psychedelics. Please join us in the Common Room for this discussion, which is free and open to the public.

Get Involved With Interweave We are a local group of LGBTQ members, friends and allies who meet once a month to have discussions and special events. We will meet Sunday, December 16, at 12:30 pm, to begin planning for the annual LGBTQ service scheduled for March 3, 2019. We will also have a holiday potluck lunch, so bring a dish to share. Chili and drinks will be provided. For information contact Lynn Steele at interweave@uusg.org.

“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.

Volunteers Wanted in the New Year! Starting Jan. 6, 2019, UUSG will be hosting two social hours! The First Social hour, between services, will be hosted by our wonderful teams and committees. The Second Social Hour, will follow second service and we’ll need everyone’s help: families can sign up together, grab a few friends and host as a group, or just bring your favorite snack! Thanks for helping us test this new “relaxed” second Social Hour experience. Please sign up at uusg.org/hosting.

End-of-year Contributions Donors must deliver checks on or by December 31, to claim a charitable contribution deduction for 2018. Checks that are placed in the church offering during the first worship service in 2019 will not qualify for a charitable contribution deduction in the previous year, even if the check is predated to 2018 or was written in 2018. However, checks that are written, mailed, and postmarked in 2018 will be deductible, even if they are not received by the church until 2019.

Join us for an Evening of Folk Music with February Sky on Friday, January 11, 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.

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.