

**NIFB** Sign up today to sort food at the Food Bank. Children ages 8 to 16 may volunteer with an adult. Our next date is Saturday, December 21, 9am-12pm. Sign up at [uusg.org/food-bank](http://uusg.org/food-bank).

**Flag of the Month** The Peace Flag is flying at Pioneer House for the month of December. Our wish for the holiday season.

**End-of-year Contributions** Donors must deliver checks on or by December 31, to claim a charitable contribution deduction for 2019. Checks that are placed in the church offering during the first worship service in 2020 will not qualify for a charitable contribution deduction in the previous year, even if the check is predated to 2019 or was written in 2019. However, checks that are written, mailed, and postmarked in 2019 will be deductible, even if they are not received by the church until 2020.

#### **Contact Information**

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

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

### **Sunday, December 8**

- 11:30 am Finance Team Meeting
- 12:30 pm OWL Parent Orientation Meeting
- 12:45 pm Welcoming Congregation Committee Meeting
- 2:00 pm Steeple Walk

### **Monday, December 9**

### **Tuesday, December 10**

- 9:30 am Geneva Girl Scout Leaders
- 7:00 pm Board of Directors

### **Wednesday, December 11**

- 11:00 am Staff Meeting
- 7:00 pm Facilities Team Meeting

### **Thursday, December 12**

- 6:00 pm Youth Outlook
- 6:30 pm Transition Team Meeting
- 7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal

### **Friday, December 13**

### **Saturday, December 14**

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

### **Sunday, December 15**

- 12:30 pm LRE Steering Team Meeting
- 12:30 pm Welcoming Team Meeting

**Staff Time Off** Rev. Jennifer & Rev. Patrick will be on vacation December 25 - January 2. Our Congregational Administrator, Christine Imielski, will be out of the office December 24 - 25 & December 31 - January 1. Office hours December 23 - January 3, are by appointment only. Please email Christine at [office@uusg.org](mailto:office@uusg.org) for questions. Thank you!



December 8, 2019

**Unitarian Universalist  
Society of Geneva**

December's Theme: God

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

**In the Pulpit:** Rev. Patrick Price

**Worship Associates:** Deb Brod, Roxanne Willis

**Greeter:** Louise Haslett

**Musicians:** FUUsion: Trish Beckjord, Pam Birch, Lynn Fisher McCanne, Kelly Herz, Susan O'Neill, Rhonda Robinson, Shawna Tiffin, Meredith Vandre, Pat Vary

**Social Hour Hosts:** Council Members

**Counters:** Finance Team

**Teachers:** 9:30 K-2: Chung Liang, Amanda Slaiher; 3-5: Shawn Thornton, Ro Maziarz; 11:30 K-2: Chung Liang, Katie Yurkewicz; 3-5: Martha Malana, Parvaneh Smith; 6-8: Jenny Montgomery, Rachel Harbold; 9-12: Jennifer Klein, Jeff Stanley; Nursery: Frank Coffey, Rachel Harbold, Sean Hruby

**Sunday Coordinator:** Becky Hruby

#### **Upcoming Services**

December 15: Intergenerational Holiday Pageant

December 22: Rev. Jennifer Innis

*Come as you are.*

## Order of Worship

### Ingathering Music

### Ringling of the Church Bell and Call to Worship

\***Song of Community** # 30 “Over My Head”

### Words of Welcome & Community Announcements

### Congregational Greetings

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

**Prelude** *Grace*, Lynn Fisher McCanne

### Chalice Lighting

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

\***Antiphonal Reading** # 565 “Prophets”

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

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

### Introduction to the Offering / Beyond Our Walls

Mutual Ground presented by Kathy Melone

**Offering** *S’Vivon*, Traditional Hebrew Song arr. Betty Bertaux

**Sacred Story** from “Because Nothing Looks Like God,”  
Lawrence & Karen Kushner

**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** *Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening*,  
music Ruth Artman, poem Robert Frost

**Reading** “A Person Will Worship Something,” Emerson

\***Hymn** # 120 “Turn Back”

**Sermon** “Be Careful What You Worship: False Gods, Idolatry and  
Literalism”

\***Hymn** # 348 “Guide My Feet”

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

\***Sending Our Light into the World**

\***Benediction**

*Please be seated for our Postlude*

**Postlude** *When the Song of the Angels Is Stilled*, music Elizabeth  
Alexander, words Howard Thurman

*Please stand as you are willing and able at the \**

## Announcements

**Preparing for the Pageant** On December 15, our Intergenerational Holiday Pageant will be led by Rev. Jennifer Innis and a Cast of Thousands. There will be an open time for rehearsal and choosing costumes from 9:30am-Noon on December 14. If you would like to secure a role or otherwise assist, see Rev. Jennifer.

**We will once again be offering the Our Whole Lives (OWL)** program to 7th, 8th and 9th grade youth. This program integrates comprehensive relationship and sexuality education with values from our Unitarian Universalist community. All parents of new OWL participants should attend a parent orientation **today at 12:30**, at UUSG. OWL leaders will provide an overview of the program and answer any questions.

**Luncheonettes.** Please note date change, a week earlier due to Christmas! Great conversations, beautiful view, tasty choices on the menu...All we need is your participation to assure our fun! Join us at Andres, Batavia on Wednesday, December 18, 11:30am-1:00pm. Please RSVP at [uusg.org/luncheonettes](https://uusg.org/luncheonettes).

**UUSG Circle Suppers 2020!** Circle Suppers involve revolving groupings of participants who take turns hosting or providing a part of the meal for each of four monthly suppers. Participating pairs or singles will be grouped with different participants for each of the four suppers, which are held in **February, March, April, and May**. This is a great opportunity to meet UUSG Members & Friends that you may not know! Sign up online at [uusg.org/circle-suppers](https://uusg.org/circle-suppers) or in the Common Room. Questions? Contact Mary Swanson at [circlesuppers@uusg.org](mailto:circlesuppers@uusg.org). **Deadline to sign up is Friday, December 20.**

**An Evening of Folk Music** Join us for an Evening of Folk Music with February Sky on Friday, January 10, 2020, 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. Cosponsored by the Geneva Park District. More details at [februarysky.com](https://februarysky.com).

**Beyond Our Walls** This December, our BOW recipients are the Literacy Trivia Bee and Mutual Ground. The Trivia Bee benefits the Fox Valley Literacy Volunteers, who provide one-to-one literacy tutoring to adults in Kane County, and have partnered with us in the past by providing books that we take to the Illinois Youth Center in conjunction with our Holiday Party. Mutual Ground Shelter provides services in Kane and Kendall Counties for Victims of Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault. They provide shelter and services to approximately 1,500 women and children each year. Their goal is to empower victims to make their own decisions when provided support, encouragement, and information. Their work has been severely hampered by deep budget cuts from the State of Illinois. You do not need to decide which of the two to support, \$400 of the funds donated will pay for our Trivia Bee Team to compete in the Literacy Volunteer’s annual fundraiser, with the remaining funds being given to Mutual Ground. Please make checks out to "UUSG" and write "BOW" in the memo line. Thank you for your generous giving!

### December Services & Celebrations:

Sunday, **December 15**, 9:30 & 11:15am  
Intergenerational Holiday Pageant led by our Pageant Team,  
Rev. Jennifer Innis, and a Cast of Thousands

Sunday, **December 22**, 9:30 & 11:15am  
Rev. Jennifer Innis - "Yuletide"

Tuesday, **December 24**: Christmas Eve Services

**3pm:** Our “Family Friendly” service especially for young children

**8pm:** Candlelight/Choir Service: Seating in the Sanctuary is limited to 150 people, so get here early to get a good seat!

**11pm:** Candlelight Service: A contemplative, peaceful service for adults and quiet youth. Worship led by Geoff Pynn with classical guitarist Paul Sargent.

Sunday, **December 29**, 10am

Intergenerational Fire Ritual Service led by the Rev. Emmy Lou Belcher at 10am; potluck brunch at 11am