

July 5, 2020

**Unitarian Universalist
Society of Geneva**

Today's Worship Team

In the Pulpit: Kevin O'Neill

Worship Associate: Pat Vary

Musician: Lynn Fisher McCanne

Technical Directors: Jeff Stibal, Cari Gesiakowski

Upcoming Services:

Sunday, July 12: Rev. Craig Schwalenberg

Sunday, July 19: Aaron Fogleman

Come as you are.

Order of Worship

Call to Worship

Prelude # 149 *Lift Every Voice and Sing*, words, James Weldon Johnson; music J. Rosamond Johnson

Lift every voice and sing, till earth and heaven ring,
ring with the harmonies of liberty;
Let our rejoicing rise high as the listening skies,
let it re-sound loud as the rolling sea.

Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us;
Sing a song full of the hope that the present has brought us;
Facing the rising sun of our new day begun,
Let us march on till victory is won.

Stony the road we trod, bitter the chastening rod,
felt in the days when hope unborn had died;
Yet with a steady beat, have not our weary feet
come to the place for which our fathers sighed?
We have come over a way that with tears has been watered;
we have come, treading our path that the blood of the
slaughtered,
Out from the gloomy past, till now we stand at last
where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.

God of our weary years, God of our silent tears,
thou who hast brought us thus far on the way;
Thou who hast by thy might led us into the light,
Keep us forever in the path, we pray.
Lest our feet stray from the places, our God, where we met thee;
Lest our hearts drunk with the wine of the world, we forget thee;
Shadowed beneath thy hand, may we forever stand,
true to our God, true to our native land.

Welcome & Community Announcements

Chalice Lighting

Song of Praise

Praise God, the Love we all may share;
Praise God, the Beauty everywhere;
Praise God, the Hope of Good to be;
Praise God, the Truth that makes us free.

Our Covenant (written in 1842)

Being desirous of promoting practical goodness in the world,
And of aiding each other in our moral and religious improvement,
We have associated ourselves together -
Not as agreeing in opinion,
Not as having attained universal truth in belief
Or perfection in character -
But as seekers after truth and goodness.

Doxology

From all that dwell below the skies
Let faith and hope with love arise;
Let beauty, truth, and good be sung
Through every land by every tongue.

Offering

For All Ages – Ivy Benshoof

Pastoral Prayer & Meditation**Shared Silence**

Musical Response A Patriot's Medley, arr. Lynn Fisher McCanne

Hymn # 210 "Wade in the Water"

Chorus: Wade in the water, wade in the water, children, wade in the water, God's gonna trouble the water.

See that band all dressed in white. God's gonna trouble the water. The leader looks like an Isrealite. God's gonna trouble the water. **Chorus**

See that band all dressed in red. It looks like the band that Moses led. God's gonna trouble the water. **Chorus**

Message What Would Augustus Conant Say Today?

Hymn # 199 “Precious Lord, Take My Hand”

Precious Lord, take my hand, lead me on, let me stand, I am tired,
I am weak, I am worn: through the storm, through the night, lead
me on to the light,
take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.

When my way grows drear, precious Lord, linger near, when my
life is almost gone,
hear my cry, hear my call, hold my hand lest I fall;
take my hand precious Lord, lead me home.

When the darkness appears and the night draws near, and the
day is past and gone,
at the river I stand, guide my feet, hold my hand;
take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.

Sending Our Light into the World

Benediction

Postlude The Times They are A-Changin’, Bob Dylan

Kevin O’Neill, and his wife Linda, have been members of UUSG for 25 years. Since retiring in 2014, Kevin devoted time to researching and writing a screenplay about UUSG’s founding minister Augustus Conant. He presented a portion of that screenplay during a worship service in 2017, titled, Augustus Conant: Civil War Soldier Chaplain. Today he shared more of what he learned from his research into Augustus’ life.

Today & This Week at UUSG

uusg.org/calendar

(All activities meet via Zoom. Contact your group leader for links.)

Sunday, July 5

- 10:00am Online Worship Service

Monday, July 6

- 11:30am Women's Circle Planning Meeting
- 7:30pm Technology Team Meeting

Tuesday, July 7

- 7:00pm Council Meeting

Wednesday, July 8

- 10:30am Staff Meeting

Thursday, July 9

Friday, July 10

Saturday, July 11

Sunday, July 12

- 9:00am Summer RE (K-5)
- 10:00am Online Worship Service
- 11:00am Summer RE (6-8)
- 12:00pm Summer RE (9-12)

Contact Information

Revs. Jennifer Innis & Patrick Price, Interim Co-Ministers
interim.coministers@uusg.org

Rev. Scot Hull, (starting 8.1.20) Senior Minister
Christine Imielski, Congregational Administrator
office@uusg.org; 630-232-2350, ext. 100

Lisa Rittenberry, Administrative Assistant
admin.assistant@uusg.org; 630-232-2350, ext. 101

Becky Hruby, Director of Religious Education
DRE@uusg.org; 630-232-2350, ext. 104

Molly MacKay Zacker, Board President
boardpresident@uusg.org

Cynthia Spiegel, Music Director
music@uusg.org

Jeff Stibal, Technical Director, techdirector@uusg.org

Announcements

Navigating the Year Ahead: Board Statement on UUSG's COVID-19

Reopening Strategy. As UUSG looks ahead to the coming year, we're thrilled to begin our new journey with Rev. Scot Hull. At the same time, unexpected and weighty decisions demand our attention about how we will do church and when we'll resume "normal," face-to-face worship and ministry practices. [Visit our website to learn more about UUSG's plan for the future.](#)

Black Lives Matter Signs Available. If you'd like to purchase a Black Lives Matter yard sign, please contact Gail Tattersfield or Christine Imielski. Signs are \$5 and all proceeds will go towards a Black Lives Matter initiative. Further donations gratefully accepted.

The Board of Directors has extended our current stay-at-home practice including a continuation of virtual services, group meetings and other functions until at least Friday, July 31. Ongoing assessments are being monitored and further updates will be posted at uusg.org as relevant.

Service July 19: Aaron Fogleman, Jesus Is Female: Historical Image, Current Relevance Aaron Fogleman and his family live in Batavia and have been attending UUSG for nine years. He is a professor of History at Northern Illinois University, where he teaches courses on early American history and the history of the Atlantic World.

Bible Study for UUs. For UUs who simply want to learn more about the history of the Bible as literature, as well as early Christianity, "Bible Study for UUs" is on the third Monday of each month from 7 to 8:30 PM. Our next meeting will be on July 20. We'll begin our discussion of "[The Origin of Satan: How Christians Demonized Jews, Pagans, and Heretics](#)" by Elaine Pagels. We'll meet using Zoom. For more info, please contact Jim Frazier biblestudy@uusg.org

Religious Education The Religious Education Steering Team has decided to dedicate the entire summer to our first principle: "Each person is important". To that end, teachers are creating awareness of our words, attitudes and privilege; teaching about the importance of Black Lives Matter; and empowering our youth with knowledge to confidently counter prejudice.

As we prepare for fall, please consider helping support our RE program. We are in need of: middle school teachers, middle school youth group leader (social events), mentors for our Coming of Age (COA) program. Please consider how and where you may be able to help support our program.

Mutual Ground Quaran-cleaned recently? Found old jewelry you no longer want? State Street Jewelers will give \$CASH\$ to Mutual Ground, a local domestic violence shelter, for jewelry of ANY condition or value! Some jewelry may even be used in Mutual Ground's gala auction! If jewelry doesn't make a fashion statement at your home, Mutual Ground is also requesting donations of essential items found on their wishlist here.

Domestic and relationship violence cases have risen and increased in intensity during shelter-in-place guidelines. This has left shelters with an increased need for community support. Now is the time to give to these essential non-profits.

IMPORTANT: The Social Justice Team asks that donations are left inside of the blue plastic container located at the 110 entrance to the church. Mutual Ground appreciates if jewelry donations are contained in a ziplock bag. Please do not bring donations directly to Mutual Ground or State Street Jewelers. Christine will use her superpowers to ensure that donations remain safe.

Thank you to Diane Gallentine for discovering this community service act of love. For questions for more information email the Social Justice Team at socialjustice@uusg.org.

Want UUSG to be Recognized in the Broader Community? Here's How:

You can help ensure that UUSG is recognized in the broader community. We have more of an impact when we work with other churches and non-profits. That is why we are a proud member of the Fox River Valley Initiative. This broad-based organization does a terrific job of training people to be community organizers. The next zoom training sessions will be 7-8:30, July 21, and 28.

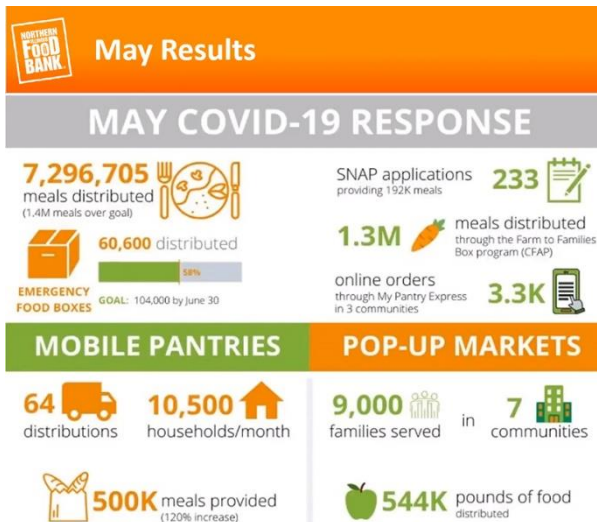
Register here: contact Lucy Tarabour, admin@dupageunited.org

During the past 5 years, UUSG has been part of these successes:

- Since 2017, 170 police officers have been trained through Crisis Intervention to identify and de-escalate encounters with people suffering from mental illness or addiction
- Expanded and increased availability of a Crisis Stabilization Units offering people treatment instead of incarceration
- Helped create a Kane County Jail re-entry program linking ex-offenders with mental illness with appropriate treatment and housing

- Won 48 units of permanent supportive affordable housing units in Elgin
- Convinced law enforcement in the county to leverage their purchasing power to force gun manufacturers to create gun safety technologies

July “Beyond Our Walls” Members and friends donated \$1,978 in support of the Northern Illinois Food Bank in May. In this time of crisis, our donation had an immediate impact within this community. The graphic shows just how busy the NIFB was in May. July is going to be no different. The NIFB is continuously updating their safety information regarding operations. Please follow the [link](#) if you have concerns.



Looking for a convenient way to fulfill your pledge or make a donation to UUSG during this time? Visit our website here to donate using your PayPal account, credit card, or debit card. You can also contribute to our monthly “Beyond Our Walls” collections here; be sure to include “BOW” in the special note instructions. Questions about donating online? Contact Christine at office@uusg.org. Checks may also be mailed to: UUSG, PO BOX 107, Geneva, IL 60134.

If you haven’t fulfilled your 2019-20 operating fund pledge commitment yet, please try to do so immediately. Questions? Contact Christine at office@uusg.org.