



May 2, 2021

Unitarian Universalist Society of Geneva

Today's Worship Team

In the Pulpit: Rev. Scot Hull

Worship Associate: Rhonda Robinson

Musicians: Geoff Pynn

Technical Directors: Jeff Stibal, Cari Gesiakowski, Jamie Carroll

Upcoming Services:

Sunday, May 9: Rev. Scot Hull, Mother's Day

Sunday, May 16: Rev. Scot Hull, UU History: 60th Anniversary of the U+U Merger

Come as you are.

Order of Worship

Ringing the Bell Ivy & Tim Benshoof

Call to Worship

Prelude

Welcoming Words

Opening Hymn # 320 "The Pen is Greater"

The pen is greater than the sword.

To wield a blade or write a word
we need the skill which hands accord.

A surgeon takes a knife to heal;
assassins do the same to kill.
Each acts according to their will.

I pick the cherries from a tree,
or break the branch and let it die.
For good or ill, my hands are free.

With fingers I can soothe a brow,
or make a fist and strike a blow,
kindness or cruelty bestow.

Then let us now this lesson see:
like life itself our hands can be
for evil used, or charity.

Chalice Lighting Harper Littlefield & Elaina Hruby

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) Harper Littlefield & Elaina Hruby

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.

REcap Chung Liang, Jaime Andersen

Passing the Peace

For All Ages *A Jedi You Will Be*, by Preeti Chhibber

Joys & Sorrows

Hymn # 123 "Spirit of Life"

Spirit of Life, come unto me.

Sing in my heart all the stirrings of compassion.

Blow in the wind, rise in the sea;

move in the hand, giving life the shape of justice.

Roots hold me close; wings set me free;

Spirit of Life, come to me, come to me.

Offertory

Gratitude for the Offering

Reading

Musical Response

Sermon

Closing Hymn # 318 "We Would Be One"

We would be one as now we join in singing
our hymn of love, to pledge ourselves anew
to that high cause of greater understanding
of who we are, and what in us is true.

We would be one in living for each other
to show to all a new community.

We would be one in building for tomorrow
a nobler world than we have known today.

We would be one in searching for that meaning
which bends our hearts and points us on our way.

As one, we pledge ourselves to greater service,
with love and justice, strive to make us free.

Chalice Extinguishing and Unison Closing

Birthdays

Benediction

Postlude

Community Announcements

Talk Back and Coffee Hour Breakouts

Contact Information

Rev. Scot Hull, Minister

minister@uusg.org; 630-232-2350, ext. 103

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

Today & This Week at UUSG

uusg.org/calendar

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

Sunday, May 2

- 9:00 am RE Class K-2
- 9:00 am Styrofoam Sunday
- 10:00 am Online Worship Service
- 11:15 am RE Class 3-5
- 11:15 am RE Class 6-8
- 11:15 am RE Class 9-12
- 1:00 pm Green Sanctuary Meeting

Monday, May 3

- 11:30 am Women's Circle Planning Meeting
- 7:00 am Technology Team Meeting

Tuesday, May 4

- 7:00 pm Council Meeting

Wednesday, May 5

- 10:00 am Staff Meeting
- 11:30 am UU Buddhism Meditation & Study Meeting

Thursday, May 6

Friday, May 7

Saturday, May 8

- 9:30 am CAUUC Spring Conference
- 1:00 pm Difficult Conversations with Ken Beare

Sunday, May 9

- 9:00 am RE Class K-2
- 10:00 am Online Worship Service
- 11:15 am RE Class 3-5
- 11:15 am RE Class 6-8
- 11:15 am RE Class 9-12
- 2:00 pm Dungeons & Dragons Group

Can't find something? Need a little more information? Check out our website at uusg.org and our calendar at uusg.org/calendar.

Announcements

Happy Birthday Rev. Scot! We wish Rev. Scot a very happy birthday on May 6. Enjoy your day!

The For All Ages book today is “A Jedi You Will Be,” written by Preeti Chhibber, illustrated by Mike Deas and published by Disney Lucasfilm Press. A Jedi You Will Be encourages adults and children alike to have self-confidence and always do your best. It reinforces the principles that it’s ok to make mistakes and it’s ok to fail, as long as you keep trying. Everyone has strengths, everyone has weaknesses and that is what makes us all unique. Embrace who you are! Thanks to Disney Lucasfilm Press for their permission to share the book today. When shopping for books, please patronize our local independent bookshops: Harvey’s Tales, Townhouse Books, and Anderson’s Bookshop. If you prefer to shop online, [Bookshop.org](https://www.bookshop.org) allows your purchase to support the independent bookshop of your choice.

Green Sanctuary meeting today at 1pm Join Zoom Meeting
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83930759291>, Meeting ID: 839 3075 9291

The Bible, and other sacred texts, can be challenging. As a UU, Rev. Scot’s approach to scripture has always been one of curiosity – “I just kinda want to know what all the fuss is about.” All are welcome. No previous exposure is required but would certainly be welcomed. We’ll be using the Massachusetts Bible Society’s What is the Bible? as our study guide (purchase is not required). For a Bible, Rev. Scot recommends the “[Harper Collins Study Bible](#)” or the “[The New Oxford Annotated Bible with Apocrypha](#).” **We will meet on the 3rd Mondays of the month at 7pm, the next meeting is May 17.**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88101593697?pwd=ZjJJWjIiSEEx3K1BTUjhtTUx4WVR0Zz09>. Meeting ID: 881 0159 3697, Passcode: 215873. To be added to our email list, send a note to office@uusg.org.

Wine Down Thursday You are invited every 2nd and 4th Thursday at 7pm, to Happy Hour. Next date is **May 13**. Bring your favorite beverage and enjoy the company of other UUs as we talk about anything and everything. Zoom <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84241796675> Meeting ID: 842 4179 6675.

Chicago Area UU Council Spring Conference: Re-opening and Reimagining Church - A panel discussion on lessons from the pandemic. Saturday, May 8, 9:30-11:30am via Zoom. [More information and register here.](#)

May “Beyond Our Walls” This month’s BOW offering is for Lazarus House Homeless Shelter, which is both an **Emergency Shelter** and a **Center for Transitional Living** located in St. Charles. Serving as an Emergency shelter involves being open 24 hours on Monday through Saturday and 16 hours on Sunday. They make available 3 meals a day, shower and laundry facilities, and personal hygiene items. The Center for Transitional Living provides individual rooms as well as space for families to stay together. The staff creates case management plans with the goal of helping their guests attain permanent independence. In addition, Lazarus House has arranged for health care, tutoring, haircuts, credit counseling, employment services, and more. Please contact socialjusticeleader@uusg.org find out how you can volunteer to prepare meals or stay overnight to assist their staff. This month’s donations will be split evenly, one-half goes to UUSG’s fund for reimbursing our meal providers and one-half goes directly to Lazarus House programs.

One Book One UUSG WOW invites you to join us for our third One Book One UUSG discussion group on **Tuesday, May 25, at 7:00pm** via Zoom. We will be discussing the book “A Place for Us,” by Fatima Farheen Mirza. The novel focuses on an Indian-Muslim family living in California, striving to find a balance between tradition and modernity. The family of five is left to search for home in a metaphorical and literal sense. The audience is given glimpses of the family life from their beginning to their three children later finding themselves stuck between living their own lives and the lives their parents and culture expect them to follow. **Please RSVP by May 18 to wow@uusg.org.** A Zoom link will be sent out closer to our meeting date. We look forward to a great discussion. We hope you can join us.

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Resources #4 Being an antiracist means more than just not being racist. Antiracism is the active dismantling of systems, privileges, and everyday practices that reinforce and normalize white dominance. As UUSG continues to focus on Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, we will be providing more resources to further our understanding of this important, critical work. [Some are provided here.](#)

Vaccinated? Let us know! In the spirit of optimism and hope in our community we are keeping a running tally of how many of our members and friends have received the COVID-19 vaccine. So far, **we have 97 members vaccinated**, we are so looking forward to being together again! Please let us know at admin.assistant@uusg.org.

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 **May 31**. Please read the letter and learn more about UUSG's plan for the future: [Updated “Navigating the Year Ahead: Board Statement on UUSG’s COVID-19 Reopening Strategy.”](#)

The Inclusion Bookclub We have our first roster of books, and we're so excited to share them with you! Join Rev. Scot, Lisa Gades, and UUSG members and friends in a monthly exploration of diversity, equity, and inclusion. Our meetings are on the **third Tuesday of every month at 7pm, the next one is May 18**. UUSG will have a limited number of copies of each book available. Please check with Christine to learn more or to sign up at office@uusg.org. Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87167167460?pwd=eStBK1cxNFpwWU9SaHcwMEVUbzNpZz09> Meeting ID: 871 6716 7460, Passcode: 428914

Caste: [The Origin of our Discontents](#) by Isabel Wilkerson

Wilkerson illuminates an unspoken caste system operating in America--one that cuts across race, class, and other factors. [Hear an interview with Wilkerson on NPR's Fresh Air.](#)

[Redefining Realness: My Path To Womanhood, Identity, Love & So Much More](#)

by Janet Mock. Mock shares her experiences of growing up young, multiracial, poor, and trans. Her story encourages all of us to be more accepting and real.

[Rage Becomes Her](#) by Soraya Chemaly

Anger in women and girls has long been less acceptable than anger in men and boys. And yet, anger is also a powerful signal that something is wrong, and action needs to be taken. Chemaly's book is important for anyone raised to suppress their anger and who now seeks to use it as a catalyst for change. [See Chemaly's TED Talk here.](#)

[An Indigenous Peoples' History of the United States](#) by Roxanne Dunbar-Ortiz

Dunbar-Ortiz presents a history of the United States from the perspective of Indigenous peoples, highlighting our nation's colonialist policy. Not the history you learned in school.

[Heartland: A Memoir of Working Hard and Being Broke in the Richest Country on Earth](#) by Sarah Smarsh

By telling the story of her life, Smarsh brings America's class divide into sharp focus. She gives voice to the many hard-working people whose labor we take for granted and who deserve better. **If you visit uusg.org/calendar, and click on the event, the Zoom link will always be located there.**

Social Justice News

May 15, 9-12: Help the Hungry by Packing Food at the Illinois Food Bank. [Sign up here.](#)

Take Action on Climate Change: All of us at UUSG can do our part to help fight climate change by supporting the Illinois Clean Energy Jobs Act. The Social Justice Team, Green Sanctuary, and the UU Advocacy Network of Illinois urge UUSG members to contact the Governor and your state legislators. Use the following talking points: **I want a Clean Energy Jobs bill which:**

- invest in workforce development and contractor equity
- put tens of thousands of Illinoisans to work
- bring clean energy to Black and Indigenous People of Color, low income, and environmental justice communities
- expand energy efficiency programs
- transition the Illinois power sector from fossil fuels to clean energy while supporting energy workers and communities impacted by the decline of the coal industry. [Click on this link to send your message.](#)

Official Notice of the Annual Meeting: Slate of Candidates for the 2021-2022 Board of Directors and Nominating Committee

This year's Annual Meeting will be held on Sunday, May 16, 2021 at 12:30pm via Zoom. All Members and Friends are encouraged to attend. Voting Members, [please RSVP here so we can ensure a quorum.](#)

[Join Zoom Meeting.](#) Meeting ID: 883 8386 7321

Proposed Slate of Candidates for 2021-2022 Board of Directors

Officers & Directors

President: Molly MacKay Zacker (1-year term) Vice President 1: Nancy Christensen (1-year term) Vice President 2: Jenny Montgomery (1-year term)
Secretary: Patricia Ward (1-year term)
Treasurer: Larry Escalona (1-year term)
Director: Jessica Littlefield (2-year term)
Director: Tom Lichtenheld (2-year term)

Directors Don Clements and Gail Tattersfield will be completing the 2nd year of their 2-year terms.

Nominating Committee

Nominating Committee Chair: David Tomell (1-year term) Nominating Committee Member: David de Coriolis (1-year term) Nominating Committee Member: Tracey McFadden (1-year term)

(Two remaining members of the Nominating Committee will be appointed by the newly elected Board after July 1, 2021)

Additions to the slate may be made by petition of ten Voting Members and/or Student Members made to the Committee at least two weeks prior to the May 16 Annual Meeting. Any additions must be submitted to the Nominating Committee (nominating@uusg.org) by Sunday, May 2, and must include the required petition of ten Voting Members and/or Student Members.