



June 27, 2021

**Unitarian Universalist
Society of Geneva**

General Assembly Service

Upcoming Services:

Sunday, July 4: Guest-in-the-Pulpit: Dr. Laura Solomon

Sunday, July 11: Guest-in-the-Pulpit: Caroline Bright

Come as you are.

Today & This Week at UUSG

uusg.org/calendar

Sunday, June 27

- 10:00 am Online Worship Service

Monday, June 28

- 9:00 am Pioneer Newsletter Deadline

Tuesday, June 29

Wednesday, June 30

- 10:00 am Staff Meeting
- 12:00 pm BYO Lunch with Julia Jones

Thursday, July 1

Friday, July 2

Saturday, July 3

Sunday, July 4

- 10:00 am Online Worship Service

No Board Chat Today Due to the UUA General Assembly service we will be skipping the "Board Chat" today. See you in July!

The Sermonators and the Sacred Texts groups will not meet in July but will meet in August.

Council will not meet during July and August During these months, we ask that teams/committees still complete the Teams Report, since the Board will continue to meet and much of the information is important. Of course, if there is content/information that your Team would like to share with the Council, please email the Council, either thru Realm or at council@uusg.org.

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

Announcements

The Re-opening Task Force and the Board of Directors are BEYOND ELATED to announce that the building will be re-opening for **in-person meetings in the Common Room** on Thursday, July 1st! [Please use the Room Reservation Form here](#). There are a few guidelines that we all must abide by for the safety of our staff.

- Mask wearing is mandatory.
- Building usage is restricted to the Common Room.
- No food or drink consumption is allowed.
- The restroom closest to the kitchen is designated as the “Visitor Restroom” and the ONLY bathroom that should be used by any non-staff members
- Cleaning supplies will be clearly visible in the Common Room. It is necessary to wipe down all “used” surfaces after use.

Please, please, please abide by these guidelines; all of us want to be together but we need to keep in mind that the safety of our staff and congregants is of the utmost importance and our #1 concern. **Also, please remember that this is different than having in-person services, those are still online for now.**

Beyond Our Walls for June: Youth Outlook The June Beyond Our Walls offering is going to support Youth Outlook which is the first social service agency in Illinois solely dedicated to the support of LGBTQ youth. They work in six counties in the Chicago suburbs, offering drop-in centers for youth, support for parents, and community education. A number of new centers have been added in our region this year. UUSG has proudly supported this work for years and Youth Outlook has grown with our help.

Have you been vaccinated? As we near our re-opening, the news is very good. Although masks will still be required for any in-person activities, we are still keeping a running tally of how many of our members and friends have received the COVID-19 vaccine. So far, we have **132 members** vaccinated. We are so looking forward to July 1! Please send vaccination updates to admin.assistant@uusg.org.

The Diversity Equity and Inclusion Committee Needs YOU! Anyone who is interested in helping plan and coordinate the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) initiatives at UUSG is invited to volunteer for the DEI committee by sending a message to DEI@uusg.org.

A Reminder If you spent money on behalf of UUSG this year and have not yet requested reimbursement, please do so by June 30. We won't be able to process any requests for 2020-2021 funds received after the end of this month. Reimbursement request envelopes are available in the volunteer office or you can email your receipts to office@uusg.org.

Unsung Hero: Jan Miller. Jan Miller is always thinking of ways to bring **positive attention** to UUSG and UUSG members. She never fails to recognize others with cards, gifts, food, and special attention. She is a master organizer and strategist. Every month she volunteers to take Council minutes and every week she is in the UUSG gardens. With Karen Laukaitis, Jan has worked tirelessly to transform the west side, eradicating invasive weeds, rescuing shrubs, and transplanting perennials. Jan has shared her expertise in horticulture and landscape design with the rest of the garden crew, providing great ideas, plants, and advice on maintenance. She has both the vision and the follow-through, offering her assistance with humor and grace. She had the idea to set up the tent on Third Street and fill it with plants, chairs and our UUSG sign so that people passing by could sit awhile. This has been a huge success. We are so fortunate that Jan and Tom moved to a townhome recently and left their own gorgeous garden behind, since Jan has transferred even more time and energy to UUSG's landscape. This is just the tip of the iceberg. Jan is so often the force working behind the scenes – making things more effective, more sustainable, more beautiful!

Announcing...Summer (In-Person) Events! Please join us for Summer 2021 Family Ministry Events. Open to all, we hope you will join us. It would be great to see actual faces, and not just faces in Zoom boxes! We miss you and hope you can take advantage of one or more of these opportunities. Questions? Email Becky Hruby at DRE@uusg.org. **Sundays, 1-3pm, dates and locations:**

July 18, Wheeler Park, Geneva: Meet at the pavilion/playground area. Bring your frisbees for the free disc golf course if that's your thing. All youth will be treated by UUSG to a free round of mini golf. Bring money for the snack bar if desired. Enjoy the amenities: playground, trails, pavilion, shade & bathrooms.

August 15, Pottawatomie Park, St. Charles: Meet at the small playground across from the mini golf course, between the bathrooms and parking lot. While there, enjoy two shaded playgrounds, the Fox River Trail, pavilion, mini golf and snack bar. UUSG will pick up the tab on an ice cream at the snack bar.

UUSG's Monarch Diary (Installment 3) UUSG's Monarch has been very busy since the last installment. Baby M grew big enough to be moved into a cage, and after several days Baby M transformed into a chrysalis. Perhaps by the next installment, Baby M will have transformed, again, into a butterfly. In the meantime, the Sapet family named their monarch caterpillar Carle, and Christine Imielski requested an egg and a cage. We dropped one off for her last week. The UUSG community is now raising at least three Monarchs! If you are interested in raising a Monarch, please contact Kevin and Linda O'Neill and they'll set you up with an egg and cage. [The third installment of "UUSG's Monarch Diary" can be accessed here.](#)

One Book One UUSG Your WOW Leadership has chosen a new title for our One Book One UUSG Book Club. Please join us **in the Common Room** at UUSG on Wednesday, July 28, for a discussion on "Born a Crime," by Trevor Noah. This is non-fiction, an autobiography written by an amazing young comedian. If you are interested in attending, kindly RSVP to wow@uusg.org. We prefer to have an accurate count of friends and members so that we can be better prepared. "Born a Crime" is the winner of the Thurber Prize. The compelling, inspiring, (often comic) coming-of-age story of Trevor Noah, set during the twilight of apartheid and the tumultuous days of freedom that followed.

Summer Care and Conversation with Julia Jones! Have something you're wrestling with? Something sitting on your heart? Some question burbling in your soul? Or maybe you just want someone to bounce it all off? I mean, it has been a year, right? This summer, we are delighted to have this support from Julia Jones! And every hour that we make use of her compassionate ear will count towards the fulfillment of her educational requirements. At the very least, you'll have a nice conversation with a compassionate listener! For details, or if you would like to schedule time with Julia, please reach out to her at jjones@meadville.edu.

Summer BYO Lunches on Zoom! Julia Jones, Meadville Lombard seminarian and spouse to Reverend Scot, will be hosting our summer lunch program. No agenda. No requirements. Come if you can, when you can. Just bring yourself, your concerns, your questions, your stories, your jokes—and your lunch—and join her (and your congregational friends!) in our virtual courtyard for an hour of conversation, connection, and community. Wednesdays at noon! [Zoom Meeting ID: 885 8448 0784](#).

How far have you traveled on your way to becoming antiracist? Hopefully, you have gained knowledge of the history and severity of white supremacy through some of the resources the DE&I Team has provided. Education is the first step, but it is only of value if we follow it with action. [This is the last Resource List on racism for now](#), but the DE&I team will be posting the Resource Lists on the UUSG web page. Until we do so, if you would like copies of previous lists, please contact DEI@uusg.org.

Unsung Heroes Many tasks and caring acts get accomplished by volunteers at our church unbeknownst to many of us. These people go above and beyond what is asked or expected of them. We would like to recognize these Unsung Heroes. If you would like to nominate one of these heroes, please submit their name to WOW leadership at wow@uusg.org. Please include a brief description of the “behind the scenes” unselfish acts. If you have a photo of your hero, please attach it. These entries will be included in our weekly Mini Pioneers.

Sacred Texts Study Group: The Bible, and other sacred texts, can be challenging. 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 **August 16**, on Zoom. Meeting ID: 881 0159 3697, Passcode: 215873. To be added to our email list, send a note to office@uusg.org.

Social Justice News

Thank you: The Social Justice team thanks the following individuals who helped pack 14,000 pounds of granola bars at the Northern Illinois Food Bank in June: Kevin Beyer, James Carroll, Jamie Carroll, Don Clements, Cari Gesiakowski, Keith Gesiakowski, Samantha Gesiakowski, Ramsey Rusef, Bob Swanson, Mary Swanson

July 3: Beginning in July, UUSG will resume its commitment to make sure that a volunteer spends the evening at Lazarus House to help staff in case of an emergency. Please contact socialjusticeleader@uusg.org for this opportunity.

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