

Assertion Training Group led by UUSG Member Richard E. "DJ" Jensen, PhD, Retired Psychologist. This group has a start date and time of **Tuesday, Sep. 28, 7-8:30pm** at UUSG, and meets weekly on Tuesday evenings for 9 or 10 sessions until December 7. No meeting week of Thanksgiving. Please direct questions to DJ at rejensen@sbcglobal.net. Please fill out the [Application for Enrollment](https://forms.gle/GMGr62oqi4BFrTwY7), (<https://forms.gle/GMGr62oqi4BFrTwY7>) by September 21.

Do you want to make donations via Tithely? Check out the Tithely QR Code.



Contact Information

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Today & This Week at UUSG

uusg.org/calendar

Sunday, September 12

- 9:00 am Worship Service
- 10:00 am Religious Education Classes K-12
- 11:00 am Worship Service
- 1:00 pm Homecoming Picnic

Monday, September 13

- 1:00 pm Finance Team Meeting (online)

Tuesday, September 14

- 7:00 pm [Board of Directors](#) (online)

Wednesday, September 15

- 10:30 am Staff Meeting
- 12:00 pm Re-Opening Meeting
- 4:00 pm Heritage Team Meeting
- 6:00 pm Fox Valley Jewish Neighbors Service
- 7:00 pm Buddhism Meditation & Study Group (online)
- 7:00 pm Facilities Team Meeting

Thursday, September 16

- 11:00 am Simply Sharing Circle (online)

Friday, September 17

Saturday, September 18

- 9:00 am Board Retreat (off-site)
- 9:00 am Northern IL Food Bank Group

Sunday, September 19

- 9:00am Worship Service
- 10:00 am Religious Education Classes K-12
- 11:00 am Worship Service

Can't find something? Need a little more information?

Check out our website at uusg.org and our calendar at uusg.org/calendar.

Welcome to This House!



September 12, 2021

Unitarian Universalist Society of Geneva

Homecoming Sunday

September Theme: Possibility

Today's Worship Team

In the Pulpit: Rev. Scot Hull

Worship Associate: Deb Brod

Musicians: Lynn Fisher McCanne, Linda O'Neill, Cynthia Spiegel, Tom Zimmerman

Technical Directors: Jeff Stibal, Jamie Carroll, Cari Gesiakowski

Upcoming Services:

Sunday, September 19: Rev. Scot Hull

Sunday, September 26: Rev. Scot Hull

Come as you are.

Order of Worship

Prelude “We Gather Together,” arr. Cliff Hardin

Introit “Anitra’s Dance,” Edward Grieg

Ringing the Bell

Welcoming Words

Chalice Lighting

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.

Hymn “Parting Glass” (Delta version), Irish folk song, arr.

Wailin’ Jennys, new words: Linda O’Neil

Oh, all the moments we’ve yet to share
and in each other’s company.

And all the moments that we’ve prepared

Alas, it seems, they’re yet to be.

We’ll wait until the time is right,

For everyone to sing along

Our voices raised in pure delight

Together where we all belong.

Oh, all the times we softly sigh,
we’re sorry for the stayin’ away.

And all the moments we hold inside
as treasures for a kinder day.

So bowing to the current need

We’ll wait for praises to be sung

In patience and fidelity

With one for all and all for one,

With one for all and all for one.

Passing the Peace

Joys & Sorrows, Candles of Remembrance

Spirit of Life

Reading

Offertory Announcement BOW Lazarus House

Offertory

Reading/Reflection “The Great Realisation (Probably Tomfoolery)”

Responsive “Hard Times Come Again No More,” Stephen Foster, arr. Linda O’Neill & Cynthia Spiegel

Let us pause in life's pleasures and count its many tears

While we all sup sorrow with the poor

There's a song that will linger forever in our ears

Oh, hard times, come again no more

'Tis the song, the sigh of the weary

Hard times, hard times, come again no more

Many a days you have lingered around my cabin door

Oh, hard times, come again no more

While we seek mirth and beauty and music, light and gay

There are frail forms fainting at the door

Though their voices are silent, their pleading looks will say

Oh, hard times, come again no more

'Tis the song, the sigh of the weary

Hard times, hard times, come again no more

Many a days you have lingered all around my cabin door

Oh, hard times, come again no more

Sermon “The Great Realisation”

Chalice Extinguishing

Benediction

Postlude “Chocolate Fudge,” Chip Davis

Announcements

UUSG Homecoming Picnic Today! Come join your UUSG Community at Wheeler Park Pavilion at 1pm for fun, music, and games. Bring Your Own Lunch, but we'll be providing sweet treats, water, and lemonade.

Unsung Heros We have many people to thank for our beautifully refreshed sanctuary. Without the dedication of the following people, all the time consuming, painstaking and challenging work involved in refreshing our beloved sanctuary could not have been completed:

Sherri Casterline, Dave Duckworth, Dave Hansen, Sean Hruby, Tom Lichtenheld, Pat McGleam, Jan Miller, Kevin O’Neill, Jeff Stibal, David Tomell. Special thanks to Deann Alleman, the Heritage Team, and Board of Directors for their counsel and support. Special thanks to Rev. Scot, Christine, Becky and Lisa for their helpful assistance. In addition, a special note of gratitude goes to Jeff Stibal for all of his time and talent used to update the sanctuary’s technology, and to allow us to offer a dual live and Zoomed worship service on Sundays. Not enough can be said about his dedication and efforts. Huge thanks to Jeff, Jamie Carroll, and Cari Gesiakowski! Please see the Weekly Email for full project details!

September Beyond Our Walls: Lazarus House At a time when we are celebrating homecoming, we remember people who have no home to which they can return. Three hundred of our neighbors are being served currently, and they need our help. Please volunteer to prepare meals or stay overnight at uusg.org/hope-for-the-homeless2. Donate at uusg.org/donate. Include BOW in the memo line.

A Celebration of Life Service for UUSG Member **Nancy Goodfellow** will be held in our Sanctuary on Saturday, September 25. The visitation will begin at 10am with the service to follow at 11am. If you have any questions, please contact Christine in the office at office@uusg.org or 630-232-2350.

RE

Volunteers Needed for Youth Programs Religious education (RE) volunteers still needed:

Teachers: All RE classes will be held at 10am this year, in the hour between the two Sunday morning worship services. Teaching is a twice per month commitment. No experience is necessary. **We need one additional teacher in grade 3-5.**

Arts & Exploration (A&E) Volunteers: For grades K-8, we are excited to offer A&E. A&E allows our kids, those who would otherwise be too young or too wiggly to make it all the way through a worship service, a place where they can play, interact, and be in community. During this time of heightened restrictions, A&E has been expanded to include all ages not yet eligible for a vaccine (12 and under) as well as their classmates (all middle school youth). Please sign up to help for just one hour. You'll be free to attend the other service. Please contact Becky Hruby, Director of Religious Education for Children and Youth, at dre@uusg.org if you are interested in helping or simply learning more about these opportunities.

Social Justice

Friday Flicks to Begin Remotely This year, movies from WTTW's Point of View library will be available free of charge during a 2-week period. At the end of that time, we will meet via zoom to share our insights about the film. By September 15, please tell us which day(s) during the 4 weeks you can join us for the discussions. Contact: socialjusticeleader@uusg.org.

Sept. 17, 4-5: Bridge Brigade for Voting Rights

Participate in the National Day of Action - Show up on Rte. 38 bridge in Geneva with a sign such as "Protect Democracy - Pass Voting Rights Acts" or "Stop Jim Crow 2.0" or "Fix the Filibuster" Questions?

socialjusticeleader@uusg.org

Sept. 18, 9-12: Northern Illinois Food Bank Anyone 8 and older is welcome to help pack food for families who are in need. www.uusg.org/food-bank

Sept. 23, 9-10: Soup Kitchen in Aurora Sign up to provide 80 items: either water bottles, fruit, cookies, or snack bars. www.uusg.org/soup-kitchen

Be a First Responder for Action Alerts! The Social Justice and Green Sanctuary Teams are creating a list of people who would like to receive timely notice of opportunities to advocate for important policies or legislation. To receive these alerts, please contact socialjusticeleader@uusg.org.

Women's Circle starts the new church year with a very special first session! WC seeks to help members and friends connect, learn, share, and explore new ideas, develop our own spirituality and become familiar with others' beliefs. We offer six sessions per church year to all who identify as female. Our first session, Saturday, September 25, 1-4pm, will be held safely outdoors at the Les Arends Forest Preserve property shelter in Batavia. Our special guest for September will be Julia Jones, speaking about the impact of our last 18 months: **Acceptance: Facing Factual Reality.** We know many of you have had an opportunity to meet Julia this summer, and we are excited she has offered to launch our 2021-22 year. We hope to see you at the Les Arends Forest Preserve property Shelter (2S731 Rte 31, Batavia, on the river, west side, just before Moosehart). Sign up at uusg.org/womens-circle.

Please consider joining our small Worship Team to help imagine the new church year! The Worship Team meets on the fourth Tuesday of the month at 7pm. If you are interested, please connect with Rhonda Robinson or Rev. Scot.

UUSG Member and Friends Directory! You should have recently received an email with our draft directory entries. Please review your entry and let Christine Imielski at office@uusg.org know if any updates are needed by Wednesday, Sept 15. If you'd like to be included in the upcoming directory, please send your name and contact information to Christine as well.

The Inclusion Bookclub 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 **September 21**. The book is "Rage Becomes Her," by Soraya Chemaly. Meeting ID: 869 8603 6292, Passcode: 1234. If you visit uusg.org/calendar, and click on the event, the Zoom link will always be located there.

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 **September 20**, on Zoom. Meeting ID: 881 0159 3697, Passcode: 215873.

One Book One UUSG The WOW Team is happy to announce that the new book title for our next One Book One UUSG book discussion is "We Two Alone" by Jack Wang. Jennifer Klein will be our discussion leader on the evening of **Monday, October 4, at 7pm via Zoom**. This title is a newer book and may be a bit more difficult to get from your local library, however Townhouse Books, and Barnes and Noble have some copies. Certainly, this title can also be ordered at other bookstores. As always, we appreciate an RSVP to wow@uusg.org if you intend to attend that night.

UUSG Sanctuary décor

To add visual energy to our Sanctuary, it has been lovingly updated by the facilities and technology teams.

The fabric for the banners was designed by [Cecilia Mok](#), an artist and surface designer in Sydney, Australia. The fabric was printed by [Spoonflower](#), a waste-free, print-on-demand service using non-toxic inks and sustainable fabrics. These banners are changeable and can be updated by season or theme. We envision building a portfolio of banners that can be rotated to keep the sanctuary inspiring and beautiful.

The acoustic gray tiles on the west wall are made of recycled plastic by [Feltright](#). They're arranged in a diamond pattern to echo the pattern in our painted windows and pew fabric.

The sanctuary walls and wainscoting have been painted. The wainscoting color remains White Dove. The wall color was changed to Revere Pewter, a soft, gray-beige.

The maroon curtain on the front wall has been taken down, while the white curtain remains. Curtain rings and wands were added to the white curtain, making it easy to close and open.

Some other items of note: two air purifiers were assembled and placed in the sanctuary, several electrical outlets were replaced with child tamper-proof outlets, and a small banner was made for the pulpit.

Without the dedication of the following people, all the time consuming, painstaking and challenging work involved in refreshing our beloved sanctuary could not have been completed: Sherri Casterline, Dave Duckworth, Keith Gesiakowski, Dave Hansen, Sean Hruby, Tom Lichtenheld, Pat McGleam, Jan Miller, Kevin O'Neill, Jeff Stibal, and David Tomell. Special thanks to Deann Alleman, the Heritage Team, and Board of Directors for their counsel and support. Additional thanks to Rev. Scot, Christine, Becky and Lisa for their helpful assistance.