

**Calling all knitters and crocheters!** Immigrants currently being relocated to Illinois are in urgent need of winter items: blankets/afghans, scarves, gloves/mittens, hats. Sherry Wilson ([wilsonesca@gmail.com](mailto:wilsonesca@gmail.com)) or Emily Clark ([emstevec@gmail.com](mailto:emstevec@gmail.com)) for more information.

**Buddhist Meditation, Sundays, 6-7 PM** Monks from the Blue Lotus Buddhist Temple lead visitors and guests through an hour of meditation and spiritual discussion. All levels of experience are welcome! No cost; donations appreciated. Check email for registration link. Drop-ins are always welcome.

**Northern Illinois Food Bank:** December 9, 9am to noon, we need volunteers to pack food for distribution to area food pantry. [uusg.org/food-bank-signup](http://uusg.org/food-bank-signup)

**Save your backs, UUSG has a new Utility Cart!** Just in time for big events with heavy things, we have a new cart for everyone at church to use! Each tray has a weight limit of 100 pounds, and the whole cart folds up for storage. The cart will be in the Common Room temporarily for folks to get used to using it, and then it will live in the Common Room closet. Thanks to Teal for seeing the need, and Reverend Scot for ordering it!

#### Contact Information

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## Today & This Week at UUSG

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

- Sunday, December 3**
- Worship Service 10:00 AM
  - 9:30 AM Styrofoam Sunday
  - 10:00 AM K-12 Religious Education
  - 11:45 AM Braver Angels: Depolarizing Within Workshop
  - 2:00 PM Sacred Sounds Meditative Drum Circle
  - 6:00 PM Blue Lotus Buddhist Meditation
- Monday, December 4**
- 7:00 PM Technology Team Meeting
- Tuesday, December 5**
- 9:00 AM Worship Meeting
  - 10:00 AM Staff Meeting
  - 7:00 PM Council Meeting *online*
- Wednesday, December 6**
- 3:00 PM Heritage Team Meeting
  - 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal
  - 7:00 PM UU Buddhist Study Group *online*
- Thursday, December 7**
- 11:30 AM FEMA Grant Meeting *online*
- Friday, December 8**
- Saturday, December 9**
- 9:00 AM Northern IL Food Bank
- Sunday, December 10**
- Worship Service 10:00 AM
  - 11:45 AM Social Justice Sunday Activity
  - 6:00 PM Blue Lotus Buddhist Meditation

## Welcome to This House!



## Unitarian Universalist Society of Geneva

**December 3, 2023**

### Today's Worship Team

**In the Pulpit:** Rev. Scot Hull & The Braver Angels

**Worship Associate:** Steve Clark

**Musicians:** John Rosenkrans, piano; Kerena Fox, cello; Cynthia Spiegel, song leader

**RE:** K-2: Amanda Slaiher, Aaron Miller

**3-5:** Ro Maziarz, Vickie Kilgore

**6-8:** Anthony Mistretta, Kerry Sapet

**9-12:** Jennifer Klein, Jaime Anderson

**Technical Team:** Jeff Stibal, Director; Cari Gesiakowski, Jamie Carroll, Doreen Rose Mace, Scott Dotson, Gina Grupe-Stibal, Caroline Pickett, Ashley Peterson

### Upcoming Services:

**Sunday, December 10:** Guest, Linda Dorr, "Comparative Religion!"

**Sunday, December 17:** Christmas Pageant, "A Child of Hope"

## Order of Worship

### Ingathering Music

### Ring the Bell

### Welcoming Words

**Opening Hymn** #1023 "Building Bridges"

**Reading** "Gate A4", by Naomi Shihab Nye

### Song of Praise

### Covenant

### Doxology

*Children and adult leaders leave for religious education*

### Passing the Peace

### Joys and Sorrows

### Candles of Remembrance

**Hymn of Comfort** #95 "There Is More Love Somewhere"

### Invitation to Generosity

**Offertory** "Sicilienne," von Paradis

### Words of Thanks

**Reading** "We Give Thanks This Day" by Eugene Pickett

**Responsive** "Nina," Pergolesi

**Sermon** "A Braver Angels Look at Eugene Pickett's Prayer"

**Closing Hymn** #318 "We Would Be One"

### Benediction

**Sending Music** "The Mission, How Great Thou Art,"  
Morricone, Hine

## Announcements

### **Braver Angels – Depolarizing Within Workshop: Today!**

Polarization can be driven by how we talk with like-minded people about those on the other side. Too often, we stereotype, dismiss, or ridicule our fellow citizens who support the other political party, its leaders, and its policies. This free 2 hour in-person workshop teaches participants: How to be more aware of their own inner polarizer; How to be critical without demonizing, dismissing or stereotyping large swaths of the population; and how to constructively intervene in polarizing social conversations with like-minded people. Who can come? Anyone interested in examining their own inner polarization and learning strategies to disagree without condemning or ridiculing others. **Today! 11:45am in the Common Room. Lunch included!**

**Sacred Sounds Free Drum Circle Today!** 2-4pm in the Sanctuary. Open to all ages interested in playing with a variety of musical instruments to find those meditative rhythms of personal connection and peace. Bring your own drums or try out ours. No musical experience necessary.

**Mutual Ground is our BOW** cause for December. Mutual Ground Domestic and Sexual Abuse Shelter provides many services to people throughout Kane and nearby counties: 24-Hour Crisis Hotline: Domestic Violence: 630-897-0080, Sexual Violence: 630-897-8383, Residential Services, Counseling Services, Substance use services, Family Services, Legal advocates, medical advocates, Prevention Educators. Please give generously to this worthy cause.

**Your Help is Needed at Lazarus House** Can you give just two nights a year to provide practical goodness in our community? Consider sleeping at Lazarus House (private room, comfortable bed) from 9pm to 7am as part of a team fulfilling UUSG's once-a-month commitment. To learn more, without any obligation, contact [MMckeough@aol.com](mailto:MMckeough@aol.com); 630-262-8449. This might be your opportunity for a meaningful 2024 resolution!

### **Mark your calendars for the Yule Dinner at UUSG!**

Thursday, December 21, 6-8:30pm. Bring your favorite dish to share and let's enjoy a meal together! Beer, wine, and non-alcoholic beverages will be provided. All ages are welcome to attend. Please contact Lily at [membership@uusg.org](mailto:membership@uusg.org) with questions. Please RSVP to this event no later than Friday, December 15, at [uusg.org/yule](http://uusg.org/yule). Please indicate what dish you will be bringing to share. We are also looking for 4-5 people to help set up and clean up the event. Let us know if you are interested in helping, in the sign-up.

**One Book One UUSG** Friday, Jan. 12, at 7pm, in the Common Room. Your WOW Team is happy to announce another wonderful literary opportunity for members and friends of UUSG! Our next book: "Station 11," by Emily St. John Mandel. We hope you can join us for a discussion and community time led by Melissa Auer and supported by Carol Myers and Glenda Peck. RSVP to [peckrglenda@gmail.com](mailto:peckrglenda@gmail.com) if you plan to join us so that we may plan accordingly. Simple snacks and coffee will be available.

### Upcoming Services

**Sunday, December 10:** Guest Speaker, UUSG Member Linda Dorr, "Comparative Religion!" At the request of a UUSG member, we'll be looking at how other religions view Jesus.

**Sunday, December 17:** Join us for another fun and meaningful intergenerational service. "A Child of Hope Pageant" returns with special guest harpist Renee Wilson.

**Sunday, December 24:** Christmas Eve Service, 5pm Beginning at 4:30pm in our Common Room join us for fellowship and hot cocoa. At 5pm we will move into the Sanctuary as Rev. Scot, Cynthia, and our UUSG Choir lead us in our family friendly service of Lessons and Carols, adorned with other beautiful music selections and a special candlelight carol to conclude the evening. Special guest musicians include a string quartet as well as our own Lara Ward on French Horn.

**Sunday, December 31:** New Year's Eve Potluck, 11am. Join your UUSG Community in welcoming in the new year with food and fellowship! In lieu of service this morning, we will be having a potluck. Please rsvp at [uusg.org/nyepotluck](http://uusg.org/nyepotluck).