



A Newsletter of  
The Unitarian Universalist Society of Geneva

# THE PIONEER

January-February 2015

## Are You a Friend of New UUs?

Dear Potential Friend of New UUs:

"Friends of New UUs" is a program offered to people who have expressed interest in UUSG and have participated in the "New UUs" Orientation Program or the Member Preparation Class.

This program is supported by church members and long-standing friends of UUSG. FNU can help explain the dynamics of our involvement with social justice and how to participate in groups and ministries. FNU is offered as a courtesy to all inquiring folks who would like guidance understanding who we are and what the opportunities are for involvement at UUSG.

Some of these inquiring minds may be single females and males who would like to start meeting people but find it overwhelming to do that on a busy Sunday morning in the Common Room. Some may be families with children (of all ages) who are trying to understand the LRE component and would like to connect with similar families. There will be couples without children who may be looking for friends who could offer guidance about the social aspect of what goes on at UUSG and the programs and groups we offer.

No matter if they are single, with or without children, love to meet people in social situations or are trying to meet people of similar or compatible interests, most everyone would welcome someone able to offer guidance about what goes on within our walls. Everyone shares the same goal – understanding UUSG and what we can offer.

As a Friend of New UUs, you could offer to meet for a cup of coffee, go for a walk, enjoy lunch or dinner, plan a play date at the park with the children, or attend an event of interest to them. Maybe meeting at a social justice cause or participating in an event at church would work best. This program is about socializing, enjoying what UUSG has to offer, and expanding our network of UU friends.

If you're interested in meeting new friends, contact our Membership Team at [membership@uusg.org](mailto:membership@uusg.org).

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### Update on Land Donation

The Board of Directors and Geneva Universal are making progress on the proposed gift of land.

GU will initiate the subdivision of the property and the Environmental Phase 2 analysis. Our Building Task Force team is meeting with the City of Geneva to discuss future UUSG development.

The Board plans to make a tentative decision on both the James Street and 3rd Street pieces of the property when the discussions with the City of Geneva and the environmental analysis are completed.

Should the environmental report and discussions with the city seem positive, final Board approval will follow drafting of documents and legal reviews.

# Religious Education Announcements

## Visiting With Rev. Lindsay

On February 8, Rev. Lindsay will be visiting the 3th-5th grade classrooms. The children really enjoy this special time with their minister!

## Sharing & Serving

This year, for the first time, our junior high class will have the opportunity to share with and serve the congregation during services!

On Sunday, February 15, at both the 9:30am and the 11:15am services, our students will present the "For All Ages" story to the younger set. Further, the class gets to prepare and sponsor the Social Hour!

## Studying the Bible

For UUs who simply want to learn more about the Bible as literature, our "Bible Study for UUs" group meets on the third Monday of each month, 7-8:30pm.

Their next meeting will be on February 16, and they will be discussing James, 1 Peter, 2 Peter, 1 John, 2 John, 3 John, and Jude. The current supplemental reading (in "Understanding the Bible," by John Buehrens) is pages 179-186. They will be finishing up in March with Revelations. Contact Jim Frazier at [biblestudy@uusg.org](mailto:biblestudy@uusg.org) for more information.

## Junior High Youth Group

Junior High Youth Group will meet on Saturday, February 28 at 7pm at the church. We hope you can join us for an evening of fun!

## Kid-Friendly Events & Activities

Parents, would you like to receive announcements describing opportunities at UUSG that are especially designed for your children (beyond Religious Education)?

Find out about social justice opportunities for young people, what activities for children are being planned in conjunction with the church-wide events, and when childcare will be provided for free.

Sign up at [www.uusg.org/opt-in](http://www.uusg.org/opt-in) to be included.

## YRUU

The YRUU worship service planning overnight is February 13-14. Their dress rehearsal is on February 21 and their service is scheduled for February 22.

## YRUU Seeking Photos

The YRUU group is seeking photos of memories—a childhood picture, wedding, graduation, etc.—to share during the February 22 YRUU service.

Email your photo to [uusgyruu+album@gmail.com](mailto:uusgyruu+album@gmail.com) or bring your printed photo to the Common Room during social hour on February 15 and we will scan it for you.

By submitting your photo, you give UUSG and YRUU permission to use the image for the YRUU service and to include it in a photo collage. Please only submit photos that are yours to share, and provide us the names of everyone in the photo.

## OWL

The next OWL ("Our Whole Lives") overnight is February 20-21, beginning at 6:30pm on Friday and ending at approximately 4pm on Saturday.

## Religious Education Class Topics

The RE classes will study the following topics in January:

Grades K-2nd: Making Good Things Happen, Ever-flowing Forgiveness, God Creates and Names, Mother Mawu Wants Peace

Grades 3rd-5th: Chinese Dragon Celebration, Powamu (Earth-Centered), Susan B. Anthony, Mardi Gras Ash Wednesday

Grades 6th-8th: Finishing up unit on Buddhism; Islam

YRUU (Grades 9th-12th): Planning projects for the coming year (social justice as well as social), welcoming new youth into our community, identifying processes to make the group a success, team-building

## UU Service & Generosity: Pledging in 2015

### A Note from George Tattersfield, Canvass Team Leader

Just as Winter turns to Spring so does January turn to Canvass Month at UUSG. For the past few years, I have been writing about all the wonderful things our little church does to reach out and assist folks who are a bit less fortunate than we are.

These people come from outside our congregation, as well as from within. Our Social Justice team is active all year round at places such as Lazarus house and the Northern Illinois Food Bank. It has become our custom over the past few years to kick off our canvass with a Day of Service. This day has turned into an integral part of our church year, with many different places where members of all ages can pitch in for a day and do some good.

In addition, a relatively new team called WOW ("Within Our Walls") has been quietly assisting our members and friends when things at home have gotten a little out of control due to illness, birth, death, and/or other issues where a helping hand is gratefully received.

This year, though, I am going to be a bit more practical with my words. As we all know, our little church does not run on hope and prayers, although we do appreciate them. No, in order for UUSG to exist and to provide the supporting umbrella over all our various activities, we must reach out to you once a year to provide financial support.

This year, we have assumed a few new opportunities to further enrich our lives and make our church an even better place to call our spiritual home. We will hire a new Assistant Minister whose primary function will be to serve the children and youth of our church. In addition, an anonymous donor has made an offer for some land that is contiguous to our existing property.

Opportunities like this come along about once in a jillion years. However, neither of these things are truly free. So our Board has set their sights on growing our income by about 10% this year and for the next several years. We ask each and everyone of you to consider raising your pledge at least 10%, and more if, in your heart of hearts, you know you can afford more.

Finally, I would like to put in a word for our Pledge Team. These folks, who number about 12 or 13, are the ones that contact you all this month, either in person, by phone, or with email, and maybe all three. It may come as a surprise to you that every year we go through the same effort to contact our members, and every year some of our team are treated like they are out to burgle you.

They are your friends, and are doing a somewhat thankless job. I know, because I have been doing this for at least ten years. Please, use the good manners that your Mom taught you and communicate back to the Pledge Team Member who has tried to contact you. This gesture would make their lives so much easier.

Thanks very much for your support for our wonderful little church.



BUILDING THE BRIDGE TO  
OUR FUTURE

### How to Pledge and Give

You can submit your pledge in the box in the Common Room, mail it to the church office, or pledge online at [www.uusg.org/pledge-form/](http://www.uusg.org/pledge-form/). Whether you are pledging or not, please return your form to us by March 8 so that we can begin to plan for the upcoming church year.

Pledges are payable beginning July 1, 2015. You can contribute to your pledge weekly, monthly, quarterly, or yearly, or whatever works for you.

## Celebrate with Service

Our canvass season begins on Saturday, February 7 with a full day of opportunities to help those beyond our walls. Many of us provide volunteer service throughout the year, but our Canvass Day of Service is a time for us to work together. We hope everyone can find a place and time to be of service on that day!

Last year's Day of Service was a great success, and we are hopeful that even more members and friends will participate this year.

There are a limited number of spots for each activity, and deadlines vary. See the chart below for details. Sign up today at [www.uusg.org/canvass-day-of-service](http://www.uusg.org/canvass-day-of-service).

**Need childcare? Tell us now!** Parents, you'll see that we're working to coordinate childcare during two of the volunteer activities, plus the worship service and catered dinner. But we can't make final arrangements until we know how many children (if any) will need nursery care. Please let us know (with an email to [office@uusg.org](mailto:office@uusg.org) or at [www.uusg.org/canvass-day-of-service](http://www.uusg.org/canvass-day-of-service)) **by this Thursday, January 29** if you need childcare to come to the Birthday Gifts project, Care Kits project, or the dinner. Please note that if childcare is not requested, it will not be provided.



### UUSG'S DAY OF SERVICE – SATURDAY, FEB 7, 2015

Activity	Time	Brief Description	Min/Max	Sign-up deadline	Age restrictions	Childcare?
Mutual Ground	9-11am	Clean and organize as needed	5/10	Thu, Jan 29, 2015	8+ with parent/guardian	No
Senior Gift Bags	10am-11:30am	Assemble "Personal Care Packages" for area seniors	None/20	Thu, Feb 5, 2015	All ages	Yes, 6 & under, request by Jan 29
Children's Birthday Project	1-3pm	Wrap birthday gifts for children in need	None/25	Thu, Feb 5, 2015	All ages	Yes, 6 & under, request by Jan 29
Habitat for Humanity ReStore	1-3pm	Process donations, customer sales & service, etc.	None/10	Thu, Jan 29, 2015	16+ with a signed release	No
Northern Illinois Food Bank	1-3:30pm	Pack food for distribution to area pantries and programs	30/50	Thu, Jan 29, 2015	8+ with parent/guardian	No
BINGO Party with Seniors	2-3:30pm	Enjoy bingo, prizes, snacks, and conversation	5/20	Thu, Feb 5, 2015	All ages	No
Worship Service	5pm	30-minute worship service in our Sanctuary	None/125	For childcare requests: Thu, Jan 29, 2015	All ages	Yes, 6 & under, request by Jan 29
Dinner	6pm	Catered dinner with food catered by Riginato's	None/80	Thu, Feb 5, 2015	All ages	Yes, 6 & under, request by Jan 29

Sign up for one or more of these activities and help UUSG give back to our community.

### Giving Thanks

We're looking for people with good handwriting to write "thank you" notes to those UUSG members and friends who turn in a pledge form. Stationery, envelopes, stamps, & addresses will be provided. Note-writers will not have any pledge info about those whom they're thanking.

If you can help out, contact Katie Phillips ([office@uusg.org](mailto:office@uusg.org)) and tell her how many notes you can write in February and March.



## New to UUSG?

Then join us for our next "New UUs" Orientation Program, which begins on February 15 and continues for the next two Sundays. Sessions run 12:30-3pm.

You'll have an opportunity to discuss personal journeys, ways to get involved, the history of the church, and what it means to be a member of UUSG.

You are welcome to attend any or all of the sessions. A light lunch is included. We are hoping to provide childcare (up to age 6), so please let us know if you need it to attend. Sign up in the Common Room or at [www.uusg.org/new-uus](http://www.uusg.org/new-uus).

## Interested in LGBTQ Issues?

Interweave is a local group of LGBTQ members, friends, and allies who meet once a month to discuss interesting and important issues and events.

They will meet at church on February 22 at 12:30pm to make final plans for their annual LGBTQ church service on March 1 and the "Friday Flicks" presentation of the film *Gen Silent* on February 27. Contact Lynn Steele at [interweave.leader@uusg.org](mailto:interweave.leader@uusg.org) with any questions.



## Celebrations of Naming & Dedication

Our next Celebrations of Naming & Dedication for our UUSG-connected little ones will be during the services on March 22.

We can include 2 more families at each service, so if you'd like to be involved, please let Rev. Lindsay ([minister@uusg.org](mailto:minister@uusg.org)) know as soon as possible.

## Read All About It!

If you see UUSG mentioned in a newspaper or online, please send the link or bring the article to Katie Phillips ([office@uusg.org](mailto:office@uusg.org)).

## Needed: Pizza People

We need a person (or persons) to coordinate the Swedish Days Pizza Booth this June. For more information or to volunteer, please send an email to the Board of Directors at [bd\\_list@uusg.org](mailto:bd_list@uusg.org).

## Online Covenant Groups

Thank you to everyone who expressed an interest in our Online Covenant Group experiment!

Covenant Groups are small, safe places for deep conversations about issues of spirit and action that matter to us as religious people. The online groups let us meet regardless of weather and overcome issues of long drives, night driving, and/or small children who need to be cared for. It's a way to get to know some of your fellow UUSGers better, in a setting quieter and more welcoming for real conversation than our crowded Common Room is usually able to be on Sunday mornings.

It usually takes three or four meetings for a group to really get settled, so now is still a good time to consider joining in. We have four groups going, with room for 5 more individuals. If you're interested, there are 3 openings for the 4th Thursday of the month, and one each on the 4th Monday and the 3rd Tuesday. These groups all meet from 7:30pm to 9pm on the ZOOM meeting platform. The 4th Saturday morning group is currently full. If there's enough interest, we'll look at adding a group on a Sunday evening next.

Curious? Interested in joining a group? Let Rev. Lindsay know with a note to [minister@uusg.org](mailto:minister@uusg.org).

## Policies Posted

The Board recently approved new policies related to church safety: Contact With Bodily Fluids and Dispensing & Issuing Drugs. You can see them, as well as our other church policies, at [www.uusg.org/bylaws-etc/](http://www.uusg.org/bylaws-etc/).

## Want to Know More?

Board Meeting Summaries & Minutes: [www.uusg.org/board-meeting-minutes](http://www.uusg.org/board-meeting-minutes)

Team Reports: [www.uusg.org/team-reports](http://www.uusg.org/team-reports)

Financial Reports: [www.uusg.org/financial-report](http://www.uusg.org/financial-report)

## Social Justice News

### February Friday Flick: *Gen Silent*

This month's Friday Flick, on February 27 at 7pm, will be the award-winning film *Gen Silent*.

This documentary reveals the plight of LGBTQ elders in facilities where they face discrimination by staff and bullying by other seniors.

While this is not happening in all care facilities, it is prevalent enough that it has been called "an epidemic."

The film is sponsored by the UUSG Interweave Group. For more information about Interweave, contact the group facilitator, Lynn Steele, at [interweave.leader@uusg.org](mailto:interweave.leader@uusg.org).

### Giving "Beyond Our Walls"

Thank you to everyone who contributed to December's collections and on Christmas Eve to support various social justice causes.

We raised \$5,203, which went to provide a happy new year to "Elba's Kids," Pottawatomie Habitat for Humanity, the Bridge Communities family, Humanitarian Service Project, and the UUSG MAD ("Make a Difference") Fund.

Our January collections brought in \$1630 for the Humanitarian Service Project senior gift bags project and the Northern Illinois Food Bank.

### January Day of Service

Many thanks to everyone who participated in the combined Day of Service and Food Bank Team event in January: Marissa Avellano; Bill & Katie Baar; Kevin Beyer; Rebecca Comfort, Doris Lipman; Abby, Molly, & Zoe MacKay Zacker; Anna, Dan, Joe, & Robbie Masini; Gary & Kathie Noll; Lou Pierce; Geoff & Ivan Pynn; Martha Tabis; Chris Weithers; and David Zacker.

Our group boxed 1,250 pounds of over-the-counter and personal care products for people in need! They sorted, separated, stacked, and segregated more than two dozen different types of products.

### Congregation Study Issue: "Escalating Inequality"

The UUA has adopted "Escalating Inequality" as a Congregational Study Issue for 2014-2018. Our Social Justice Team is identifying people who are interested in exploring ways to help the congregation examine the topic. Resources can be found online at [www.uua.org/documents/csw/escalating\\_inequality.pdf](http://www.uua.org/documents/csw/escalating_inequality.pdf).

To learn about the study process in general and this topic specifically, people are invited to attend a conference in Evanston, February 20-22. The conference costs \$100, but scholarships are available, as is home hospitality. For more information and to register, go to <http://uujec.com/purposeAndGoals>.

Whether or not you can attend the conference, if you are interested, please contact Jean Pierce at [socialjusticeleader@uusg.org](mailto:socialjusticeleader@uusg.org).

### Affordable Care Act Enrollment

UUSG is hosting a sign-up for Affordable Care Act coverage on February 14, 11am-4pm (coverage begins March 1). To register, contact Bill Scown ([wncscown@comcast.net](mailto:wncscown@comcast.net) or 630-360-0905).

### Commit to Knit

It's time to spread the love! Send warmth for body and spirit by creating gifts for others. Our handiwork goes to local services as requests come in or to the non-profit Knitting4Peace ([www.knitting4peace.org](http://www.knitting4peace.org)).

Work your own or join us in the Common Room between services on the first Sunday of each month. All skill levels are welcome, and help is available. Donations of yarn, needles, and patterns are gratefully accepted, too. Please contact Katherine Lyons ([knitting@uusg.org](mailto:knitting@uusg.org)) with any questions.

### Interested in Days of Service?

If you would like to be notified about Food Bank Ministry opportunities and/or Monthly Days of Service in general, please visit [www.uusg.org/opt-in](http://www.uusg.org/opt-in), or talk to Kevin Beyer or Lisa Gades.

Feel free to sign up for both lists; our system is smart enough not to duplicate messages!

## ERT Needs You!

The UUSG Emergency Response Team (ERT) has launched a 4-phase program to equip our congregation to address a variety of natural and human emergency situations. Phase 1 trained members in CPR, installed 6 new first aid kits, and presented policies that were approved by the Board of Directors.

We have a critical need to obtain members who are directly in the profession and/or have relevant experience dealing with "people safety." This might include police officers, security guards, or others with similar capabilities.

If you are interested or would like more information, please contact Hal Schulman ([ERTLeader@uusg.org](mailto:ERTLeader@uusg.org)) to discuss how you could support efforts to improve UUSG.

## What Happens at Board Meetings?

To improve communication, the Board of Directors publishes a summary of each meeting (see the article below for information about the January meeting).

For a more detailed description of the Board meetings, see the official minutes online ([www.uusg.org/board-meeting-minutes](http://www.uusg.org/board-meeting-minutes)). Please note that these are posted later than the summary, after they have been approved by the Board the following month.

Members of the congregation are welcome to attend Board meetings, which are held at 7:30pm on the second Tuesday of each month.

## Board Meeting Summary

January 13, 2015

1. Ratified ERT policies on Bodily Fluids and Dispensing Drugs
2. Discussed progress with Personnel Committee
3. Updated progress of Assistant Minister search
4. Updated progress of Building Task Force
5. Moved to draft letters to Geneva Universal and congregation about land donation progress

## Sounds of the New Year

The holiday season and the new year brought us many musical highlights, beginning with the pageant, which featured lovely vocals and accompaniment by Audrey Jonke, Anna & Dan Masini, and David Dillenbeck.

Christmas Eve shimmered with songs by the UUSG Choir, led by Bridget Kancler and beautifully accompanied by string players Stella Childs, Wendy Evans-Glazier, Larry Glazier, and Tracy Rosenkrans. Special thanks goes to John Rosenkrans, who arranged the hymns and served as pianist.

The Rev. Dr. Lindsay Bates burned up the music scene as D.J. for the fire ritual service. And it was a treat to hear the vocal and instrumental prowess of the Montgomery family: Andy, David, Ellie, and Max.

In addition to flute and piano, unusual instrumentation (ranging from a glockenspiel to an Indian drone) complemented the exquisite harmonies sung by Cynthia Spiegel, Olivia Flanigan, and Ruth Cavanaugh. And we've enjoyed gorgeous piano melodies from Patricia Arzaga, Dean Malambri, and Tom Zimmerman.

Looking ahead, we'll be treated to the music of Patricia Arzaga, as well as the UUSG Money Band with Tracey McFadden, Andy Montgomery, John & Tracy Rosenkrans, Christopher Stibal, and Beth & John Towell. Also in February, we'll hear from Sandra Anderson-Cordogan, Tom Zimmerman, and the UUSG Choir, led by Bridget Kancler.

Our one-of-a-kind Music Ministry here is a reflection of the diverse beliefs at UUSG. To share your own unique gift, share suggestions, or express your appreciation of our work, please reach out to our Music Director, Tracy Rosenkrans ([music@uusg.org](mailto:music@uusg.org)).

## Giving Statements

Giving statements for calendar year 2014 were mailed in mid-January. If you have any questions about your statement or didn't receive one (and were expecting to), please contact Katie Phillips, at 630-232-2350 or [office@uusg.org](mailto:office@uusg.org).

## Lost? Found!

Check the "Lost & Found" table in the Common Room for your wayward items. Anything not claimed by this Sunday will go to Goodwill.

### “Promoting Practical Goodness”

We send our heartfelt thanks to:

The Bartoszek Family and Diane Thornton, who volunteered for the Cookie Walk fundraiser and were inadvertently left off last month’s list of helpers.

John Rosenkrans for spending 15+ hours arranging and writing out all the Christmas Eve hymns for our musicians.

Tom Lichtenheld and Jeff Stibal for delicately guiding us into the 21st century with wall-projected “For All Ages” stories in December and January. Tom had an inspiration for the whole congregation to be able to participate and Jeff constructed the unobtrusive 12’ stand for the projector.

Dave Hansen, who was a tremendous help when one of our toilets overflowed the Sunday before Christmas. It was a dirty job, but we’re grateful Dave was willing to help!

Sam Mejia, who was the fearless leader of the UUSG Women’s Retreat this month. Participants had an amazing time of bonding, sharing, and introspection. Thank you to Sam, Debbie Leoni, and 7 other UUSG women for creating such a nurturing atmosphere.

Martha Tabis, who sewed beautiful new valances for the middle meeting room upstairs in Pioneer House.

Greeters: Sandy & Dan Bottoms; Jodi, Chris, Nolan, & Declan Brown; Eric & Mary Jonke; Jason & Ben Sapet; Pat Ward; and any last-minute recruits

Hosts: Board of Directors, “Feel Good in the Present” Group, Finance Team, Green Sanctuary Team, Hospitality & Fellowship Team

Counters: Kevin Beyer, Brad Lipman, Kevin O’Neill, Lynn Steele, George Tattersfield, Pat Ward, the Finance Team

### MidAmerican Regional Assembly

It’s time to register for the MidAmerica Regional Assembly, a weekend long gathering of UUs. You’ll hear from great speakers, participate in thought-provoking workshops, and meet and mingle with UUs from all over the Region.

Regional Assembly is April 17-19 in Naperville. Go to [www.midamericauua.org/RA](http://www.midamericauua.org/RA) to details and to register.

Youth are welcome. Childcare is offered. Limited partial scholarships are available. Hotel rooms are available at a group rate, too! The deadline to register at the early bird discount is March 15.

### Circles of Life

Congratulations to Jenny, Todd, Linus, and Rose Leslie on the newest member of their family! Rex Richard Leslie was born on December 14, weighed 8.7 pounds, and was 21” long. We’re looking forward to meeting him!

We extend our deepest sympathy to Jeanne Neltner, whose father died recently. Our thoughts and prayers are with Jeanne and her family during this difficult time.

It’s with sadness that we also report the death of long-time church member Jerry Henningson. We send our loving sympathies to his wife Rosanne and daughter Laura.

### Memorial Stones

On May 24, we’ll dedicate new memorial stones as they’re installed in the Memorial Garden.

It’s not too soon to place an order—if you’d like to remember a loved one with a carved stone, talk to our Congregational Administrator, Katie Phillips.

### We Need Greeters!

Signing up to be a Sunday greeter is an easy and important way to help out at UUSG. It requires no preparation; just arrive 15 minutes before the service starts. Lindsay is especially appreciative if you sign up in advance in the Common Room or at [www.uusg.org/greeting](http://www.uusg.org/greeting).

### Learning More About...

Our “Feel Good in The Present” group is a meditation and discussion group that has you feeling connected to yourself and the group.

No meditation experience is necessary, and their discussions are fun and inspiring! They meet on the 4th Thursday of the month, 7-8:15pm.



## FEBRUARY 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>1</b> <b>8:00 AM</b> Music Rehearsal <b>9:30 AM &amp; 11:15 AM</b> Worship & Church School; Social Hour at 10:30 AM <b>11:15 AM</b> Big Ideas Covenant Group <b>12:30 PM</b> Atheism, Humanism, & Life Issues Study Group <b>12:30 PM</b> Choir Rehearsal <b>2:00 PM</b> Ministry on Ministries Meeting	<b>2</b> <b>7:30 PM</b> Compassionate Communication Study Group <b>7:30 PM</b> Technology Team Meeting	<b>3</b> <b>10:30 AM</b> Staff Meeting <b>7:30 PM</b> Program & Administrative Councils	<b>4</b> <i>Senior Minister's Day Off</i> <b>7:00 PM</b> UU Buddhism Meditation and Study Group <b>7:30 PM</b> GAS AA	<b>5</b> <i>Senior Minister's Sabbath</i> <b>7:15 PM</b> WomenSpirit Rising	<b>6</b> <i>Church School Administrator's Day Off</i> <i>Congregational Administrator's Day Off</i> <b>6:00 PM</b> Day of Service Set-Up	<b>7</b> <i>Church School Administrator's Day Off</i> <i>Congregational Administrator's Day Off</i> <b>9:00 AM - 9:00 PM</b> UUSG Day of Service
<b>8</b> <b>9:30 AM &amp; 11:15 AM</b> Worship & Church School; Social Hour at 10:30 AM <b>11:00 AM</b> Finance Team Meeting <b>11:00 AM</b> Green Sanctuary Team Meeting <b>11:15 AM</b> Big Ideas Covenant Group <b>12:30 PM</b> Choir Rehearsal <b>12:30 PM</b> Communications Team Meeting <b>12:30 PM</b> Current YRUU Habitat Lunch <b>12:30 PM</b> Membership Team Meeting	<b>9</b> <b>7:00 PM</b> Reiki Discussion Group <b>7:30 PM</b> LRE Team Meeting	<b>10</b> <b>9:00 AM</b> Girl Scout Service Unit Meeting <b>10:30 AM</b> Staff Meeting <b>7:30 PM</b> Board of Directors	<b>11</b> <i>Senior Minister's Day Off</i> <b>4:00 PM</b> Heritage Team Meeting <b>7:00 PM</b> UU Buddhism Meditation and Study Group <b>7:30 PM</b> GAS AA	<b>12</b> <i>Senior Minister's Sabbath</i> <b>7:00 PM</b> Heritage Team Meeting <b>7:30 PM</b> Small Group Ministry <b>7:30 PM</b> Write Time Writers' Group	<b>13</b> <i>Church School Administrator's Day Off</i> <i>Congregational Administrator's Day Off</i> <b>6:30 PM</b> YRUU Overnight Begins	<b>14</b> <i>Church School Administrator's Day Off</i> <i>Congregational Administrator's Day Off</i> <b>10:00 AM</b> YRUU Overnight Ends <b>11:00 AM - 4:00 PM</b> Affordable Care Act Enrollment Counseling (advance registration required)
<b>15</b> <i>Congregational Administrator Off Today</i> <b>8:15 AM</b> Choir Warm-Up <b>9:30 AM &amp; 11:15 AM</b> Worship & Church School; Social Hour at 10:30 AM <b>9:45 AM</b> Hospitality & Fellowship Team Meeting <b>11:15 AM</b> Big Ideas Covenant Group <b>12:30 PM</b> "New UUs" Orientation Program <b>7:00 PM</b> Reiki Share	<b>16</b> <b>Presidents' Day</b> <b>7:00 PM</b> "Bible Study for UUs" Group	<b>17</b> <b>10:30 AM</b> Staff Meeting	<b>18</b> <i>Senior Minister's Day Off</i> <b>7:00 PM</b> UU Buddhism Meditation and Study Group <b>7:30 PM</b> GAS AA	<b>19</b> <i>Senior Minister's Sabbath</i> <b>7:15 PM</b> WomenSpirit Rising <b>7:30 PM</b> Compassionate Communication Study Group	<b>20</b> <i>Church School Administrator's Day Off</i> <i>Congregational Administrator's Day Off</i> <b>6:30 PM</b> "Our Whole Lives" (OWL) Program Overnight Begins	<b>21</b> <i>Church School Administrator's Day Off</i> <i>Congregational Administrator's Day Off</i> Reserved for Circle Suppers (off-site) <b>9:00 AM</b> Monthly Day of Service <b>9:30 AM</b> Self-Hypnosis Workshop <b>4:00 PM</b> "Our Whole Lives" (OWL) Program Overnight Ends
<b>22</b> <b>9:30 AM &amp; 11:15 AM</b> Worship & Church School; Social Hour at 10:30 AM <b>11:15 AM</b> Big Ideas Covenant Group <b>12:30 PM</b> "New UUs" Orientation Program <b>12:30 PM</b> Facilities Team Meeting <b>12:30 PM</b> Interweave Meeting <b>12:30 PM</b> Social Justice Team Meeting	<b>23</b> <b>9:00 AM</b> PIONEER NEWSLETTER DEADLINE <b>7:00 PM</b> Reiki Share (note date change)	<b>24</b> <b>10:30 AM</b> Staff Meeting <b>7:00 PM</b> Small Group Ministry <b>7:30 PM</b> Last Tuesday Group Hypnosis	<b>25</b> <i>Senior Minister's Day Off</i> <b>11:30 AM</b> The Luncheonettes (off-site) <b>4:00 PM</b> Heritage Team Meeting <b>7:00 PM</b> UU Buddhism Meditation and Study Group <b>7:30 PM</b> GAS AA	<b>26</b> <i>Senior Minister's Sabbath</i> <b>9:15 AM</b> Simply Sharing Circle <b>6:30 PM</b> FRVI Mental Health Meeting <b>7:00 PM</b> "Feel Good in the Present" Group Meeting <b>7:30 PM</b> Write Time Writers' Group	<b>27</b> <i>Church School Administrator's Day Off</i> <i>Congregational Administrator's Day Off</i> <b>11:30 AM</b> The Geezers Group (off-site) <b>7:00 PM</b> Friday Flicks: "Gen Silent"	<b>28</b> <i>Church School Administrator's Day Off</i> <i>Congregational Administrator's Day Off</i> <b>7:00 PM</b> Junior High Youth Group
<b>1</b> <b>9:30 AM &amp; 11:15 AM</b> Worship & Church School; Social Hour at 10:30 AM <b>11:15 AM</b> Big Ideas Covenant Group <b>12:30 PM</b> "New UUs" Orientation Program <b>12:30 PM</b> Atheism, Humanism, & Life Issues Study Group <b>2:00 PM</b> Ministry on Ministries Meeting <b>3:15 PM</b> Mental Health Ministry Event: TBD	<b>2</b> <b>7:30 PM</b> Compassionate Communication Study Group <b>7:30 PM</b> Technology Team Meeting	<b>3</b> <b>10:30 AM</b> Staff Meeting <b>7:30 PM</b> Program & Administrative Councils	<b>4</b> <i>Senior Minister's Day Off</i> <b>7:00 PM</b> UU Buddhism Meditation and Study Group <b>7:30 PM</b> GAS AA	<b>5</b> <i>Senior Minister's Sabbath</i> <b>7:15 PM</b> WomenSpirit Rising	<b>6</b> <i>Church School Administrator's Day Off</i> <i>Congregational Administrator's Day Off</i>	<b>7</b> <i>Church School Administrator's Day Off</i> <i>Congregational Administrator's Day Off</i> <b>1:00 PM</b> UUSG Band Rehearsal

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**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.*

**Our Mission Statement**

(adopted by the congregation May 19, 1996)

*The Unitarian Universalist Society of Geneva is a diverse, welcoming community which endeavors to make its Covenant a living reality. We provide religious education and opportunities for spiritual growth. We encourage individual and mutual responsibility as together we work to be a liberal religious voice in the community and a force for compassionate social justice.*

**The next Pioneer deadline is February 23 at 9am.**

Guidelines for submissions are available at

[www.uusg.org/s/Pioneer-Guidelines.pdf](http://www.uusg.org/s/Pioneer-Guidelines.pdf).

Please send all articles to [office@uusg.org](mailto:office@uusg.org).