

# **Today At Your Fellowship**

Thursday, February 2, 2023

#### This Weekend @ AUUF Find Zoom links here.

Thursday 2/2/23

**Friday 2/3/23** 12 pm Freethinkers on Zoom

#### Saturday 2/4/23

8:30 am AA Slap Happy Group 10:30 am Music Together Mountain Song

Sunday 2/5/23 9 am Virtual Forum on Zoom only

11 am Sunday Worship Live at AUUF & on Zoom

12:30 pm Finding your Way to Fellowship

12:30 pm Jr High 7-9 OWL 4 pm Anchorage Friends Meeting

#### Monday 2/6/23

4:30 pm Private Rental6:30 pm Fireweed Sangha of MindfulLiving- Private rental, visitors welcome

#### Tuesday 2/7/23

4:00 pm Stewardship Meeting on Zoom 4:30 pm Forum Planning on Zoom 6 pm Community Connection private rental 7:00 pm AK Bird Club

Wednesday 2/8/23 6:00 pm Safer Congregations Team Meeting via Zoom 6:30 pm Connections Team Fireside Chat on Zoom 6:30 pm Fireside Chat on Zoom

Half Portion Recipient for January is <u>Refugee Assistance & Immigration</u> <u>Services</u>

## **Virtual Forum**

9 am Sunday, February 5, 2023 Only on Zoom

Making Alaska Safer: A New Law Has Changed How We Define Consent for Sexual Contact

Sierra Gregg, Manager of Prevention and Education STAR Alaska (Standing Together Against Rape)



#### Click here to join on Zoom.

#### Sunday Worship at AUUF & on Zoom 11 am Sunday, February 5

Youth Sunday AUUF Youth

Our high school youth will share some of their thoughts on topics they value. We hope you'll join us as it's always exciting to hear what's important to them and what they cherish.

#### Click here to join on Zoom.

#### **Worship Services in February**

This month's Soul Matters theme is love . . . of course! It is February.

Feb. 12, 11 am In person and on Zoom Love Sunday Rev. Lise Adams Sherry, Dr. Ray Macfarlane During this multigenerational service, we'll reflect on different kinds of love with words, music, dance, and maybe even some crafts. Since romantic love gets so much attention this time of year, we're mostly leaving that type out, but there will still be lots of love to go around (appropriately) for all.

Feb. 19, 11 am In person and on Zoom *Frederick Douglass and the President* Rev. Lise Adams Sherry, Barb Clark As part of Black History Month, we'll delve into the life of Frederick Douglass and how he effected change, especially with President Lincoln. What about their experience could we translate into today's world as we continue to seek Beloved Community?

Feb. 26, 11 am In person and on Zoom Celebrating AUUF

Rev. Lise Adams Sherry, Joyce Laine

It's the last Sunday of our Stewardship Drive (Please send those pledges in now!). We'll look back at some of AUUF's beloved history and what we have to look forward to. The Alliance will be providing lunch for all as we cap this month of giving for our shared values.

## **Rev. Lise is out of the office through Feb. 7**

Rev. Lise is taking the week of Feb. 1-7 for a reading and study time. AUUF grants Rev. Lise 4 weeks per year for study, reflection, and preparation, for which she is very grateful. She will be checking her emails periodically and is available for emergencies-just call or text her cell: 503.999.2061. If you have any other questions, please contact the office at 907.248.3737. Happy February!

#### **Change of Congregational Administrator**

Some of you may have already heard that Shellie Gooden has resigned as our Congregational Administrator. Along with others, I enjoyed and will miss Shellie's good heart, her enthusiasm, and her hospitable welcome as she greeted and helped folks at our office. Fortunately, we'll still get to see Shellie from time to time as her children are involved in some of AUUF's activities and take music lessons at the Fellowship.

While we are in transition, Peggy Robinson has graciously agreed to step in for us again. She will do her best to have fairly regular hours at the office, but also has some previous commitments she has to work with.

Thank you all for your patience and please let me know if you have any questions. Please also join me in wishing Shellie well in her next adventure.

Warm regards,

Rev. Lise

#### Fireside Chat on Zoom Wednesday, Feb. 8

Staying Connected - Fireside Chat (Zoom only)

Get cozy around your home fire with the AUUF Connections Team! This monthly tradition continues its agenda-free informal conversations for young and old adults in our congregation. OK to drop in late. Tell your friends — we will try to do this every 2nd Wednesday of the month til further notice. For more information, email connections@anchorageuuf.org

## Spaghetti & Game Night - Hosted by CYLE!



#### Freethinkers 12 pm Fridays

Freethinkers discussion group meets every Friday at noon - 1:30pm on zoom (join us using the link on the calendar at <u>anchorageuuf.org</u> website calendar). Our current book is *Beyond Measure by James Vincent*. We are starting the book this week and will discuss the Introduction and Chapter One.

This looks like easy reading with interesting factoids and a dash of travelogue. The author seems to be steering us to think about how measurement systems have had subtle but strong influences on humanity over the years. The author alludes to issues of colonialism and racism. Join us if you can.

For further information from Freethinkers, click here



# Are You In This Race?

by Marie Lundstrom Stewardship Committee

That race started Sunday—the race to reach our pledge goal of \$340,000 by February 26. Are you there yet? AUUF needs your pledge to keep going. It's a tough run!

To help you participate in this pledge effort race, you should have received on Sunday two emails. One was a Contribution Statement listing all the pledges and other donations you gave to AUUF in the Calendar Year 2022. That one you can use in your tax figuring for the IRS. The other email was a

pledge letter asking for your commitment to support AUUF for the Fiscal Year 2024 (July 1, 2023- June 30-2024). It included a link to a pledge form. If you didn't receive one or both of these emails, call or email the administrator at <a href="mailto:admin@anchorageuuf.org">admin@anchorageuuf.org</a>.

The challenge of getting to that **\$340,000** goal in four weeks is up to you and how you run in this race! That pledge goal is three-fourths of our AUUF budget and is essential for all the things about the Fellowship you value—the Forum, Worship Services, choir, a full-time minister, TAYF, administrator, music director, clean floors and bathrooms, communications, snow removal, sound system, Zoom sessions, Freethinkers, Fall Frolic, Peace Camp, safe meeting space, Lifespan Learning & Exploration director and programs, warmth, OWL, conversations, social justice efforts, friendships, neighbors, a building and people and programs for our spiritual home.

All this month, pledge forms will be available at services and on the AUUF website, and members will be talking in person or on video about what's important to them at AUUF. Click here to view last Sunday's Stewardship video from Mary Ann Eininger and Annie Beltz.

And yes, I did get both of those emails, and I decided I can swing \$25 more on my monthly pledge, even though I may have to cut back on buying books!

# **Anti-Racism Team Corner**

Bettye Davis African American Summit on Health & Equity Feb. 18, 2023. Please see

the ABC website to register. Register here.

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SAVE THE DATES! JUNE 10-14 and JULY 12-14 Homestay hosts needed to help AUUF earn much-needed funds. Tour information on the WhaleCoast website, click here.

Denise Martin is looking for volunteers who would like to house UU tourists during the dates above, and banquet coordinators for June 11, and July 13.

Email dulcimer.diva@gmail.com for more information.

#### **Music Director Position Available**

Ideally, we would like to find a Music Director, and we are also willing to split this position into two--a piano accompanist and a choir director. Please send a cover letter, resume, and pay requirements to revlise@anchorageuuf.org

Thank you! Rev. Lise Adams Sherry

Anchorage Unitarian Universalist Fellowship Position Description Title: Music Director Fair Labor Standards Act Status: Non-Exempt Position Hours Required: Part time (about 11 hrs/wk Sept-May; 7 hrs/wk June-August) Organizational Relationship: Employed by Board of Directors, under the supervision of the Minister

Position Summary: Direct the music program in the church. Working closely with the minister and Worship Team, the Music Director provides both choral and piano music for Sunday and special services and events. The Director is responsible for preparing the adult choir through regular scheduled rehearsals. The Music Director takes responsibility for the maintenance of the church instruments and assists the church to provide guest musicians and other music resources.

Click here to read the entire article.

## **OWL registration is open!**

Thank you so much to our OWL Teachers! AUUF is once again providing a precious service to the community by offering the age-graded, sexuality education program, Our Whole Lives.

#### **Elementary K-2nd Grade**

Parent/Guardian Orientation: Mar 5th Classes: Mar 26th through Apr 26th Sundays 12:30-1:30p & Wednesdays 6-7p



Learn more\_about AUUF OWL <u>here</u> on our website, click <u>here</u> for more information about OWL from UUA.

Click here to register & join us at AUUF.

- Children & Youth, Learning & Exploration



## AUUF Children & Youth Need Your Help!

We need more teachers and helpers downstairs! While we are finding ways to ease the load on our generous and dedicated teachers, we will also soon be combining classes to help with coverage. Even still, we will still need more help! Most of our teachers also serve on the CYLE Team, and in other big roles at AUUF. Help us support them by sharing your time with the kids!

Especially Needed:

- Teachers Planning and teaching class twice a month, especially for 5-13 y/o's
- Helpers Sunday Mornings, special events, once a month
- Youth Advisors Be available for evening/weekend activities, bi-monthly
- Snack Master Plan and organize snacks for Sunday mornings

- Multi-Gen and Cross-Age Volunteers - Have a fun project you want to do downstairs or all together? Let us know!

Please reach out to volunteer! Thank you for everything you share with our community, and all we grow together! To help out, contact **DrRay@AnchorageUUF.org**.

Children & Youth, Learning & Exploration

# The February Half Portion offering goes to Justice Organizing Interfaith Network (JOIN)

After a year-long process, leaders from Anchorage Faith and Action—Congregations Together (AFACT) and Valley Interfaith Action (VIA) have merged to form a new, statewide umbrella group, the Justice Organizing Interfaith Network (JOIN). AFACT and VIA will continue as strong, local organizations. JOIN will strengthen AFACT and VIA, and eventually expand faith-based organizing to other parts of the state. The merger will provide practical benefits—streamlined administrative costs, less competition for funding, etc.—while also carving out a path for future growth.

AFACT and VIA have been essential institutions in Anchorage and the Mat-Su Valley, empowering democratic action for the common good of all citizens, particularly the poor and disenfranchised. Both organizations have worked with faith communities to raise new grassroots leaders – and equip them with the skills they need to solve important community issues. AFACT membership includes 13 churches/ministries (including AUUF); VIA membership includes 11 churches/ministries.

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There are vanishingly few institutions that invite ordinary citizens to participate in democratic practices beyond the ballot box. JOIN will provide a space for Alaskans to do so, by training faith leaders to listen to their fellow congregants, identify common issues, and engage with public officials to find workable solutions. JOIN hopes that you will continue to support this faith-based work.

Go to <u>anchorageuuf.org</u> Click on the Half-Portion note or Donate/ Pay at the bottom of the home page. Enter your donation under "Half-Portion for Social Action"

#### **Our AUUF Covenant**

#### Together . . .

We seek to be an open and welcoming community. We strive to listen deeply and speak with one another and to our larger community with consideration and respect.

We hold each of us and all of this amazing world worthy of our attention, compassion and care. Together we are Anchorage Unitarian Universalist Fellowship.





#### Anchorage Unitarian Universalist Fellowship (907) 248-3737

Minister, Rev. Lise Adams Sherry, (she/ her) 907-248-3737 x2, RevLise@anchorageUUF.org Office hours are usually Tues, Th & Fri 10 am - 2 pm

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Kelly Spring, (she/ her) Communications Specialist, Communications@anchorageUUF.org Kelly's remote office hours Mon-Fri 9 am -1 pm

Dr. Ray Macfarlane, (they/none) Director of Lifespan Learning & Exploration, DrRay@AnchorageUUF.org Office hours are usually Tues/Thurs 10 am - 2 pm, remote Wed 10 am - 2 pm Please confirm for appointments.

Contact the Connections Team for more information on how to get involved at AUUF Connections@AnchorageUUF.org

Connect with us



Visit our website

**AUUF Podcast** 

Donate

# ANCHORAGE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP diverse beliefs, common purpose.

# **Today At Your Fellowship**

Thursday, February 9, 2023

# This Weekend @ AUUF

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#### Thursday 2/9/23

5:30 pm CYLE Team Meeting5:30 pm Board Agenda Meeting onZoom6:30 pm Choir Practice7 pm CYLE Imbolc Planning

Friday 2/10/23 12 pm Freethinkers on Zoom

#### Saturday 2/11/23 8:30 am AA Slap Happy Group 10:30 am Music Together Mountain Song 6 pm Game Night & Spaghetti Dinner 8 pm Youth Lock-in

Sunday 2/12/23 Youth Lock-in

9 am Virtual Forum on Zoom only

11 am Sunday Worship Live at AUUF & on Zoom

#### (Sunday continued)

12:30 pm Jr High OWL12:30 pm Social Action Council12:30 pm The Alliance2:30 pm Worship Associate Meeting onZoom4 pm Anchorage Friends Meeting

Monday 2/13/23 4:30 pm Private Rental 6:30 pm Fireweed Sangha of Mindful Living- Private rental, visitors welcome

#### Tuesday 2/14/23

1:30 pm Stewardship Meeting on Zoom 2:00 pm Hungry Book Club Meeting 4:00 pm Finance Committee Meeting 6:00 pm Private Rental

Wednesday 2/15/23 6:30 pm Board of Directors Meeting

# Half Portion Recipient for February is JOIN

(Justice Organizing Interfaith Network)





Virtual Forum on Zoom Only 9 am Sunday, February 12 *Preserving Inupiat Culture in Bootlegger Cove Clay* 

# **Virtual Forum Only on Zoom**

9 am Sunday, February 12, 2023

<u>Click here to join on Zoom.</u> <u>Click here for Speaker's bio.</u>





Sunday Worship at AUUF & on Zoom 11 am Sunday February 12 *Love Sunday* Rev. Lise Adams Sherry, Dr. Ray Macfarlane

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#### Starting now: Mask optional at AUUF!

The Board and Safer Congregation Team have re-evaluated the COVID conditions in our community and AUUF and have decided we're ready to go mask optional for Sunday services. Yay! (We'll continue to be mask optional in other places at AUUF as we have been for the last few months.)

As we had said earlier in this program year, we wanted to wait until we got into the winter months to see how folks' general health was, and to make sure COVID numbers didn't greatly spike again before we completely transitioned to mask-optional. We feel enough time has passed to make this decision.

We also want to thank you very much for your patience and care as we continued to deliberate on this issue. As many of us choose to gather without masks, we hope we'll all continue to practice the many things we've learned about caring for one another during our COVID experience:

- Please stay home and rest if you aren't feeling well. We still have Zoom options for our Sunday services and many of our other activities at AUUF.
- Keep your COVID and flu vaccinations up to date (assuming no contraindications). There are still several places where you can walk in to get the latest shots.
- If you must go out and aren't feeling well, please wear a mask.

Here is a link to find information about what to do if you are exposed to COVID.

Okay, last thing. I hope you'll all take a moment to do your version of a little happy dance to celebrate that we've reached this mask-optional place at AUUF!

See you at the Fellowship!

Blessings, Rev. Lise

# Summer Peace Camp 2023

# July 17-21 - 9a- 4p

\*additional childcare available 1hr before and after



# **LEARNING TOGETHER!**

Collaboration Skill Building Caring for Nature Conflict-resolution Games, Songs, Crafts Bicycling and Outdoor adventures!

\$200 per child, Waivers/Scholarships available Early registration \$150 paid before May 1!

# Register Kids Completing K-7th Grade at: tinyurl.com/AUUFPeaceCamp

# **Peace Camp Dates and Planning**

Save the Date! Plans are underway for Peace Camp 2023, July 17-21st. Would you like to get involved or share ideas? Join us for a planning brainstorm on Thursday, February 23rd at 5:30p at AUUF. Please contact **DrRay@AnchorageUUF.org** if you need a zoom link!

The CYLE Team

# Spaghetti & Game Night - Hosted by CYLE!

# SPAGHETTI & Jouire Invited

## SATURDAY FEB 11TH 6-8P @ AUUF WE'LL BRING DINNER!

JUST BRING YOURSELF, FAMILY, AND GOOD CONVERSATION, AND IF YOU CAN... DRINKS, DESSERTS & YOUR FAVORITE GAMES!





# Are You In This Race?

#### by Marie Lundstrom Stewardship Committee

Writing checks around the first of every month to pay bills used to be my most hated duty. I found numerous reasons to put off that task—cleaning closets, mending socks, mopping floors. I have all kinds of anxious worries when it comes to dealing with money, especially when I live close to the bone, with little financial leeway. Putting off paying those bills got me late fees and even more anxiety.

Then internet banking with automatic bill paying came along and made life truly rosy. No more check-writing! I don't even carry a checkbook anymore. I just set up accounts at my credit union's automatic

bill pay service for mortgages, Enstar, Chugach Electric, and the other monthly payments, even AUUF. I don't let any of those companies into my accounts—I keep it all between my credit union and me. I can change the amount paid at any time, and the credit union sends a check or does an electronic transfer on a regular basis. I love it!

Pledge payments can be that easy. Besides the above arrangement, you have other options, such as letting a company, or AUUF, access a checking account at your bank or credit union—a voided check to AUUF sets this up. You can let a company, or AUUF, draw from your credit card. I do this for purchases online and around town all the time. For AUUF, the kind thing to do is add 3% to cover what AUUF has to pay the credit card company for each transaction. If you let AUUF draw from a debit card, there's no fee. Of course, you can also write a check and mail it every month, not my choice, but some of my friends say they prefer it.

One easy way to stave off reminders and phone calls is to send an email to stewardship@anchorageuuf.org and just say you want to keep pledging the same amount or want to raise it X dollars per month (or year). We will take you at your word and make a note that you have pledged. Couldn't be easier!

#### Share the Care / Connections

#### Will YOU Share the Care?

Have you heard of AUUF's "Share the Care" group? This started a few years back and was used heavily for a couple of members who had terminal illnesses. It truly was a way to share the care to ease the burden on the people with illness as well as their families. Since then it has served many needs, especially during Covid. We have many people on the list who are willing to "share the care" when called upon. Currently, we are looking for someone to spearhead this effort. Could it be you? It involves checking the "Share the Care" email and following up with people to find out specific needs. Once the needs are known, you could contact the Pastoral Care/Connections Team OR create a "SignUp Genius" request for someone to sign up and fulfill. This could be things like giving someone a ride to a doctor, or preparing a meal, or doing some housework, or just sitting with someone so the caregiver can go do some self-care. We can train you to use "SignUp Genius" and it would be helpful if you are comfortable with using a computer.

Please contact, connections@anchorageuuf.org if you are interested in leading this OR if you want to be added to the list of folks willing to Share the Care.

Thank you!



# Safer Congregation Team – Guidebook Snippet

Safer Congregation Team – Guidebook Snippet By David O'Brien, Team Chair

Your Safer Congregation Team has been periodically publishing "snippets" from its recently completed Guidebook. The charted purpose of the Team is to "ensure the protection and safety of the AUUF congregation and building", and the Guidebook has been written to support this goal.

#### **SCT Philosophy**

Our commitment, as Unitarian Universalists, is to the inherent worth and dignity of every person; justice and compassion compel us to create a safe and nurturing

environment. This environment should protect children and adults from harm while promoting their spiritual growth. We are committed to maintaining a safe environment as well as one free of discrimination and harassment.

#### **SCT Purpose**

The SCT exists to ensure the protection and safety of our congregants and the building. The SCT shall advise the Board and the congregation as well as propose policies that address building safety and the safety of each person who enters the AUUF building and/or attends AUUF events through sensible, protective measures regarding their physical, emotional, and mental well-being.

Click here to read the entire article.

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#### Sunday Worship at AUUF & on Zoom 11 am Sunday, February 19

Rev. Lise Adams Sherry, Barb Clark

As part of Black History Month, we'll delve into the life of Frederick Douglass and how he effected change, especially with President Lincoln. What about their experience could we translate into today's world as we continue to seek Beloved Community?

Click here to join on Zoom.

**Worship Services in February** 

Feb. 26, 11 am In person and on Zoom *Celebrating AUUF* Rev. Lise Adams Sherry, Joyce Laine It's the last Sunday of our Stewardship Drive (Please send those pledges in now!). We'll look back at some of AUUF's beloved history and what we have to look forward to. The Alliance will be providing lunch for all as we cap this month of giving for our shared values.



# Take Time for Love - AUUF Childcare

We recently talked about love as a verb and taking action to love yourself, love friends, and to love our whole human family. We wondered, what action can we take to support love in our congregation? Taking time is often a struggle. To support you in your ability

to engage in spontaneous love, we would like to offer a night of free childcare. We hope that it makes it a little bit easier for families to take time for self-care, date night, time with friends, service to others, joining the choir, or whatever fills your heart.

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- Lifespan Learning & Exploration



## Pledging Is Akin To Gardening

by Marie Lundstrom Stewardship Committee

Gardening is one of those activities that take time, effort, money, sweat, willingness to get dirty, and which may be disappointing in what is actually produced in your backyard plot, raised beds, or containers. And yet, no matter, if the beets didn't make good red globes because of a lack of boron or the mammoth sunflowers, blew over and broke in high wind because they weren't staked, there's an indefinable sense of accomplishment, of satisfaction, of warm kinship through nurturing. Gardening is something like being a parent—you do your best with love and teaching, with no guarantees about the

outcome, but you keep on doing it because it makes you feel good about life, of being connected to the universe.

It's that feeling of connection, of fulfillment as a nurturing person, that links pledging with gardening. In making a pledge, a promise, to help nurture our fellowship, we don't know how matters will turn out, but we do it anyway because it makes us feel good about life, about being connected with each other and with the universe.

When you make a garden, a certain amount of faith is involved—you don't actually know how it will turn out. Pledging money for the maintenance and growth of AUUF is

akin to that dollop of faith. You figure it's worth it for the feeling you get out of the giving.

Click here to see Joclyn Reilly's Stewardship video.



#### Treasurer's Mid-Year Report Part Two:

Let's all pitch in... and make this coming year the best ever.

# Our staff and volunteers are geared up to offer the full smorgasbord of activities.

Our amazing Stewardship team tells me you have already pledged nearly 50% of the goal set by our Board of Directors. That's really encouraging since we are only halfway through our annual pledge drive. I hope you understand that your pledges are AUUF's most significant source of revenue. (They averaged 80% of total revenue over the past five years.) The Board says we need to raise at least \$340,000 in pledges if we hope to provide our full range of offerings. That's a big jump from this fiscal year's actual receipts. So please dig deep and pitch in the fullest extent you can. In addition, the Board will do everything we can to increase our other sources of revenue, including rentals...but when all is said and done,

#### it will be up to YOU to ...

- Look at your pledge for this year. Is it really all you can afford to support our ministries? When was the last time you increased your pledge? If you can increase your pledge, please do so now.
- Grow your pledge for next year by as much as you can afford. You know inflation affects our Fellowship just like it affects your household. Too many of you just sort of coast along assuming someone else is picking up the tab. Well, let me assure you they are not.
- Bring a friend to AUUF every Sunday. Growing our membership is the very best way to assure that <u>our</u> AUUF community flourishes.

Our neighbors and all of Anchorage need our Fellowship as much as we need our Fellowship.

AUUF is a beacon of enlightenment for our community. As a Fellowship, we strive to be welcoming, accessible, and inclusive. We are each engaged in life-long quests for knowledge, understanding, wisdom, and social justice.

Because we're human, we still have a lot of work left to do as we strive to actualize our potential as individuals and as a Fellowship.

We can do this! We are Stronger Together!

## Path to a New AUUF Logo

Our Logo Task Force has been hard at work, meeting on zoom and clarifying our mission: to replace the old AUUF logo with a new, unique, appropriately meaningful, useful, versatile, and aesthetically pleasing logo. We've explored several UU logos, and talked about symbols, history, and ways that our logo has been and might be used. Our plans include developing some choices to share with the whole congregation so that a final design can be voted on and approved this Spring.

Please contact Denise Martin if you'd like to share any insights as we continue on this

## New Anchorage-wide "PulsePoint" App Available for CPR Assistance

Do you know how to administer CPR? If you do, then this smartphone app might be for you. Earlier this month, the Anchorage Daily News (ADN) published a story about a smartphone app called "PulsePoint". If someone is suffering a cardiac arrest somewhere in Anchorage, an alert goes out on the app. If you had CPR training and feel proficient in administering CPR, you can respond to the alert by traveling to the location if you are nearby and help until professional first responders arrive on the scene and take over for you. The app will also let you know if first responders have arrived at the scene yet. Muni officials say that the idea behind the app is that the sooner a person experiencing sudden cardiac arrest receives help — even if it's just a few minutes before emergency responders arrive — the more likely that person will survive. You can refer to the <u>ADN article for more details.</u>



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For questions, contact Ray Macfarlane (702) 273-4669, DrRay@AnchorageUUF.org

# Summer Peace Camp 2023

# July 17-21 - 9a- 4p

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Collaboration Skill Building Caring for Nature Conflict-resolution Games, Songs, Crafts Bicycling and Outdoor adventures!

\$200 per child, Waivers/Scholarships available Early registration \$150 paid before May 1!

# Register Kids Completing K-7th Grade at: tinyurl.com/AUUFPeaceCamp

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Save the Date! Plans are underway for Peace Camp 2023, July 17-21st. Would you like to get involved or share ideas? Join us for a planning brainstorm on Thursday, February 23rd at 5:30p at AUUF. Please contact **DrRay@AnchorageUUF.org** if you need a zoom link!

The CYLE Team

# Starting now: Mask optional at AUUF!

The Board and Safer Congregation Team have re-evaluated the COVID conditions in our community and AUUF and have decided we're ready to go mask optional for Sunday services. Yay! (We'll continue to be mask optional in other places at AUUF as we have been for the last few months.)

As we had said earlier in this program year, we wanted to wait until we got into the winter months to see how folks' general health was, and to make sure COVID numbers didn't greatly spike again before we completely transitioned to mask-optional. We feel enough time has passed to make this decision.

We also want to thank you very much for your patience and care as we continued to deliberate on this issue. As many of us choose to gather without masks, we hope we'll all continue to practice the many things we've learned about caring for one another

during our COVID experience:

- Please stay home and rest if you aren't feeling well. We still have Zoom options for our Sunday services and many of our other activities at AUUF.
- Keep your COVID and flu vaccinations up to date (assuming no contraindications). There are still several places where you can walk in to get the latest shots.
- If you must go out and aren't feeling well, please wear a mask.

Here is a link to find information about what to do if you are exposed to COVID.

Okay, last thing. I hope you'll all take a moment to do your version of a little happy dance to celebrate that we've reached this mask-optional place at AUUF!

See you at the Fellowship! Blessings, Rev. Lise



# Safer Congregation Team – Guidebook Snippet

Safer Congregation Team – Guidebook Snippet By David O'Brien, Team Chair

Your Safer Congregation Team has been periodically publishing "snippets" from its recently completed Guidebook. The charted purpose of the Team is to "ensure the protection and safety of the AUUF congregation and building", and the Guidebook has been written to support this goal.

#### **SCT Philosophy**

Our commitment, as Unitarian Universalists, is to the inherent worth and dignity of every person; justice and compassion compel us to create a safe and nurturing environment. This environment should protect children and adults from harm while promoting their spiritual growth. We are committed to maintaining a safe environment as well as one free of discrimination and harassment.

#### **SCT Purpose**

The SCT exists to ensure the protection and safety of our congregants and the building. The SCT shall advise the Board and the congregation as well as propose policies that address building safety and the safety of each person who enters the AUUF building and/or attends AUUF events through sensible, protective measures regarding their physical, emotional, and mental well-being.

#### Click here to read the entire article.

## **Anti-Racism Team Corner**

Bettye Davis African American Summit on Health & Equity Feb. 18, 2023. Please see the ABC website to register. <u>Register here.</u>

AUUF will have a display table at this event to let people know who we are.. Contact Tracy Barbee if you want to help AUUF with this. (907-227-2245)

Continuing the legacy of the late state senator Bettye Davis, the Alaska Black Caucus proudly presents the annual Bettye Davis African American Summit. This event brings together the Black community and other people of color in conversation and action to make Alaska a better place for everyone.

The Summit provides a forum for the Black community to educate policymakers and the public about not just the issues facing BIPOC people but also the solutions we want to see. The Summit addresses critical issues of public policy in the areas of economics, justice, education, and health. It is the principal gathering place, idea generator, and voice for the Black community in Alaska. You don't want to miss it!

# PBS offerings for Black History Month. - includes documentaries, a block party and more.

Reading Recommendations from our members: Peggy Robinson writes "I am most of the way through South to America by Imani Perry. (I'm actually listening to it, which works out well for me.) It is really interesting and informative. Time Magazine has it listed as #2 in their Nonfiction category for 2022. Part of their review is "The result is a revelatory account of the South's ugly past-the Civil War, slavery, and Jim Crow laws and how that history still reverberates today." So true. A great example is comparing Elvis Presley with Aretha Franklin. "

## **Upcoming Election for UUA President**

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We will still have a referendum on our presidential candidate in June at GA, and there will be opportunities for Rev. Sofia to speak between now and then. I encourage you to **read about Rev. Sofia** so you can let our AUUF delegates know how you'd like them to vote.

Blessings, Rev. Lise

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Go to <u>anchorageuuf.org</u> Click on the Half-Portion note or Donate/ Pay at the bottom of the home page. Enter your donation under "Half-Portion for Social Action"

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Dr. Ray Macfarlane, (they/none) Director of Lifespan Learning & Exploration, DrRay@AnchorageUUF.org Office hours are usually Tues/Thurs 10 am - 2 pm, remote Wed 10 am - 2 pm Please confirm for appointments.

Contact the Connections Team for more information on how to get involved at AUUF Connections@AnchorageUUF.org

	f		
Visit our website	AUUF Podcast	Donate	

# ANCHORAGE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP diverse beliefs, common purpose.

# **Today At Your Fellowship**

Thursday, February 23, 2023

#### This Weekend @ AUUF Find Zoom links here.

Thursday 2/23/23

9:45 am Private Rental 5:30 pm Peace Camp Planning 6:00 pm AUUF Childcare - Take time for Love! 6:30 pm Choir Practice

Friday 2/24/23 12 pm Freethinkers on Zoom

#### Saturday 2/25/23

8:30 am AA Slap Happy Group
10:30 am Music Together Mountain
Song
1-3 pm Private Rental
4 pm Alliance Set up for Sunday lunch

Sunday 2/26/23 9 am Virtual Forum on Zoom only

11 am Sunday Worship Live at AUUF & on Zoom

#### (Sunday continued)

12:00 pm Celebration Lunch! All are welcome!12:30 pm Jr High OWL12:30 pm Finding Your Way to Fellowship4 pm Anchorage Friends Meeting

Monday 2/27/23

4:30 pm Private Rental 6:30 pm Fireweed Sangha of Mindful Living- Private rental, visitors welcome

## Tuesday 2/28/23

1:30 pm Stewardship Meeting on Zoom 6 pm Community Connection Private Rental

Wednesday 3/1/23 6 pm Connections Team Meeting 7 pm Building & Grounds Meeting

# Half Portion Recipient for February is JOIN

(Justice Organizing Interfaith Network)





Virtual Forum on Zoom only 9 am Sunday, February 26 *How Plans for Ted Stevens International Will Affect Our Community and State* with Craig Campbell, Acting Director Ted Stevens International Airport

#### Virtual Forum Only on Zoom 9 am Sunday, February 26, 2023

<u>Click here to join on Zoom.</u> <u>Click here for Speaker's bio.</u>

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- Lifespan Learning & Exploration

# Time to Celebrate!

by Marie Lundstrom Stewardship Committee

Pledge drive is ending—it's done, we hope We've tried to reach a lofty goal Of cash enough to keep afloat Our much-beloved spiritual home

We've called and emailed from campaign's start To reach each Friend and Member's heart To persuade a pledger to up their part We tallied all on our hope-filled chart

Now it's time to celebrate at the finish line No matter if there's enough, it's fine We did our best in a limited time What we've got will keep us at least alive

So we'll have lasagne for Sunday lunch Along with fruit and some fizzy punch To honor our generous pledging bunch Who came through in the financial crunch

So after service, come fill your plate As we chat about our Fellowship's fate And enjoy the chance to communicate Over cake in company that's great

And lastly, we'll have a sweet surprise Revealed before our wondering eyes Our loan-matched challenger's disguise A fitting end, like a secret prize!





# Treasurer's Mid-Year Report Part Three:

#### It's C-r-u-n-c-h Time...

...and you need THE FACTS:

#### ★ Pledges provide more than 3/4 of our revenue.

★ Our Board of Directors set an aspirational Pledge Goal of \$340,000 for this year's Stewardship Campaign - a goal that is starting

to feel out of reach.

- ★ Your pledges will determine the size of next year's budget.
- ★ Personnel make up nearly 2/3 of our expenses.
- ★ A pledges' shortfall will force the Board to question if AUUF can afford a part-time Music Director, A/V Technician, Learning & Exploration Associate, and Congregational Administrator.
- ★ This is the **final week** of our hard working Stewardship Committee's pledge drive.
- ★ Our Board must adopt its proposed budget in March so it can be distributed to our Fellowship's Members along with the 30-day Notice of the May 7th Annual Meeting as mandated by our AUUF Bylaws.

So, please help us fund our Fellowship's vital programs as we bring our activities back into our wonderful building. Pledge right now if you can. Please follow the link to the pledge form, fill it out and email it to <u>Stewardship@anchorageuuf.org</u>. Or, if you can't deal with the form, just email a note declaring your pledge amount.

And if you've already submitted your pledge, it's never too late to make it bigger.

AUUF should be our community's brightest beacon of hope. Let's make it so. We are stronger together. Respectfully,

Sid McCausland, Board Treasurer



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# **Caring Connection**

Wray and Cindy are about to leave Mexico, and sent this photo taken with Jim and Mary Wanamaker down there. Jim is continuing to heal after his fall and hopes to be back in Anchorage mid March. Cards may be sent to their home address here, or you can send an email, although Jim is limited to the amount of screen time he can do due to his injury.

We're so glad Jim is doing better!

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THE CARDINAL NEWMAN CHAIR AT ALASKA PACIFIC UNIVERSITY PRESENTS

Nicholas Black Elk: Exemplar for Evangelization & Inculturation

# MARCH 1, 6:30-8:30 PM

Presentations and discussion with Maka Black Elk & Michael W. Taylor, Ph.D.

In person at the Lecture Hall in Carr-Gottstein Hall, Alaska Pacific University.

Scan the QR Code for a link to the Zoom Meeting, 894 6295 6326 Passcode: rr4pZL



Contact newmanchair@alaskapacific.edu

Image from Marquette University Archives, Bureau of Catholic Indian Mission Records, ID 00559

On Wednesday, March 1 from 6:30-8:30 pm in the Carr-Gottstein Lecture Hall at Alaska Pacific University, the Newman Chair of Catholic Theology at APU will be hosting a presentation and discussion about the life of Servant of God Nicholas Black Elk, an Oglala Lakota catechist whose cause for canonization is open in Rome. Maka Black Elk, a descendant of Black Elk who is actively working in the fields of Indigenous pedagogy and truth and reconciliation in the aftermath of boarding schools in the United States, and Michael W. Taylor, the author of "Black Elk's Life Speaks: 'That Much...More'' will be discussing how Black Elk's life and teachings exemplify evangelization and inculturation. This event is free and open to the public and will be live-streamed.

For questions and information on how to attend via zoom, see the qr code on the attached files, or email Kevin Jones, Newman Chair, at **kjones@alaskapacific.edu**.

## **Dear Friends of Catholic Social Services**

We invite you to share, volunteer, and donate!

#### Announcements

#### Food Drive: 40 lbs A Day for 40 Day of Lent

The need for food at St. Francis House is greater than it has ever been before. St. Francis House Food Pantry provides essential food to more than 900 families each month. Visits to St. Francis House Food pantry doubled from November 2021 to February 2023, directly coinciding to the disruption in SNAP benefits.

During the season of Lent, congregations will be hosting food drives to help support St. Francis House.

Can you help us reach our goal of 12,000 lbs of food by helping donate 40 lbs a day for the 40 days of Lent?

We will be keeping track of donations and sharing your progress! Please drop donations off at 3710 E 20th Ave, Monday-Friday 9 am-4 pm.

Thank you to Holy Cross parish members for dropping off food to help kick off the Lenten Food Drive!

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AUUF Podcast

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