



ANCHORAGE
UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST
FELLOWSHIP
*diverse beliefs,
common purpose.*

Today At Our Fellowship
Thursday, January 18, 2023

This Weekend @ AUUF
Find Zoom [links here.](#)

Thursday 1/18/24

6:30 pm Board of Directors Meeting
6:30 pm Choir Rehearsal

Friday 1/19/24

11:15 am Music Together Mountain Song
12:00-2:00 pm Freethinkers at AUUF only

Saturday 1/20/24

8:30-10:30 am AA Slap Happy Group
8:45 am Private Rental
6:00 pm Connections Team Game Night

Sunday 1/21/24

No 9:00 am Forum

**10:00 am Sunday Worship IN-
PERSON & on ZOOM**

4:00 pm Anchorage Friends Meeting

Monday 1/22/24

6:30 pm Fireweed Sangha of Mindful Living- Private Rental Visitors welcome

Tuesday 1/23/24

6:00 pm Program Council
6:00 pm Community Connections

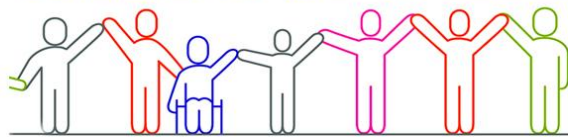
Wednesday 1/24/24

Thursday 1/25/24

5:30 pm Anti-Racism Team
6:30 pm Choir Rehearsal

Half Portion Recipient for January:
[**Alaska Institute for Justice**](#)

STRONGER



TOGETHER



Sunday Worship IN PERSON & on Zoom 10:00 am Sunday, January 21, 2024
Stewardship Sunday: Stronger Together
Rev. Lise Sherry, Michele Champion

Sunday Worship

IN PERSON & on Zoom

10:00 am January 21, 2024

This Sunday, January 21, we are joining our Forum and Worship groups together for one service only (in-person and on Zoom) at 10 am. This is the beginning of our annual Stewardship Drive--we look forward to seeing you there!

Religious Exploration Classes will start downstairs at 10 am.

[Click here to join on Zoom.](#)



Games Night at AUUF Jan. 20

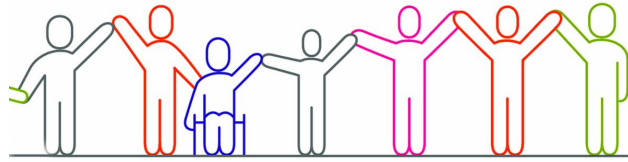
The Connections Team is sponsoring another Games Night at AUUF, on Sat. Jan. 20 starting at 6:00 pm. Last year's event was so fun, we're doing it again.

This is our contribution to the November Auction, but

you can still participate if you're prepared to make a donation to AUUF. The suggested amount is \$20, but you can pay any amount, and/or offer to provide some refreshments (libations welcome—this event is for adults). We start with a very fun ice-breaker game to get to know one another, then break into groups for cards, Pictionary, or other fun game choices.

For more information or to register, email connections@anchorageuuf.org.

STRONGER



TOGETHER

Ready ... Set ... Pledge!

*by Marie Lundstrom
Stewardship Committee*

Last week in TAOF, you were warned that you'd hear more from us. And here we are again. The AUUF Stewardship Pledge Drive is on! We want your pledge—a commitment of money to keep this Fellowship alive and well.

You will hear from us in videos. You will hear from us in person and by phone. You will hear from us by email. You will see us at the info tables in the Social Room. You will hear Rev Lise talk about budgets at our Pledge Drive Kickoff joint service this Sunday, January 21. You will see a big chart on the Social Room door showing our goal and our progress toward it.

Most important of all, you will hear from us this week via the U.S. Postal Service with a persuasive letter and a Pledge Form to fill out and return to us. Send it back right away with your pledge!

We don't want to pussyfoot or slink around the issue. We try to be as straightforward as we can about how much money it takes to keep AUUF going. And we don't want to drag out our asking and cajoling beyond one month. Four weeks from now, we'll add up the results of our efforts, post the total on the big chart, call the Pledge Drive ended, and have a celebration lunch! You're invited!



WhaleCoast Hosts - Save the Date!

Our WhaleCoast guests will be in Anchorage June 15-17 and 19-20, and on July 24-26. Hosting these UU visitors from across the country is a rewarding experience and a great fundraiser for us! Last year we made about \$22,000 and had just enough beds. Please save these dates if you are interested in providing a comfortable bed and hospitality for one or more people. The banquets will be on Sunday, June 16 and Thursday, July 25, where we will also need a number of volunteers. There are also other volunteer opportunities during their stay. Later in April I'll start gathering host and volunteer information.

If you have questions now, you may email me at probinson@ak.net.

Thank you! Peggy Robinson

Information on UU General Assembly 2024

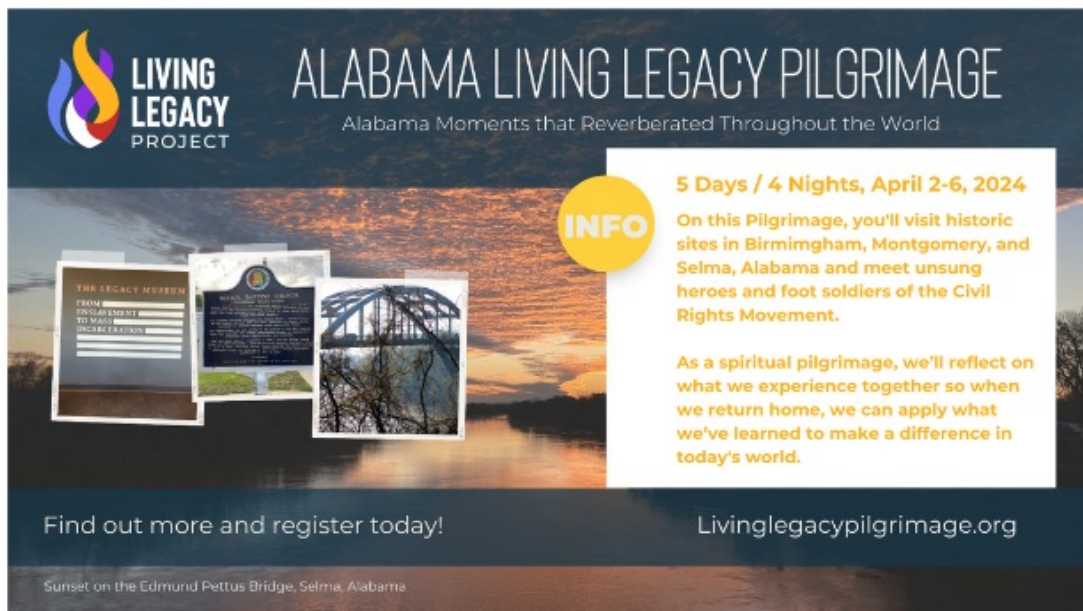
[Click here to read more.](#)

Audiovisual Coordinator Position at AUUF

AUUF is seeking an A/V coordinator to assist with Sunday Services. This position is open to members/friends of AUUF. Please read more at the links below.

[Click here to read the full job description.](#)

[Click here to read the A/V functional needs list.](#)

A promotional poster for the Alabama Living Legacy Pilgrimage. The background is a sunset over a body of water with a bridge. In the foreground, there are three historical markers. The Living Legacy Project logo is in the top left. The title 'ALABAMA LIVING LEGACY PILGRIMAGE' is in large white letters, with the subtitle 'Alabama Moments that Reverberated Throughout the World' below it. A yellow circle with the word 'INFO' is on the right. Text on the right describes the pilgrimage dates (April 2-6, 2024) and the experience. At the bottom, it says 'Find out more and register today!' and 'Livinglegacypilgrimage.org'. A small caption at the bottom left reads 'Sunset on the Edmund Pettus Bridge, Selma, Alabama'.

Alabama Civil Rights Pilgrimage with the Living Legacy Project

2024 Civil Rights Pilgrimage to Alabama

The Living Legacy Project is scheduling an April pilgrimage to key sites from the Civil Rights Movement in Alabama. This is an amazing opportunity to learn about events that led to the passage of the 1964 Civil Rights Act and the 1965 National Voting Rights Act and meet with people who were active in the Movement in that era. Rev. Lise, Marty Freeman (martyw@ak.net), and Robin and Erik Hill (akhills@ak.net) have all participated in a Living Legacy Pilgrimage and highly recommend it. If you are interested, you are welcome to contact any of us to learn more, and [check out the website.](#)

The registration deadline for this trip is February 2, 2024, and there is some scholarship funding available. Another Alabama Living Legacy Pilgrimage is in development for May 22-26, 2024. [For more information check the website, click here.](#)



January HALF PORTION FOR SOCIAL ACTION: Alaska Institute for Justice

AIJ is an award-winning non-profit agency dedicated to protecting the human rights of Alaskans. AIJ houses three programs: Alaska Immigration Justice Project which is the only agency in Alaska providing critical immigration legal services to immigrant domestic violence, sexual assault and human trafficking survivors. Our work with human trafficking survivors also includes US citizens. The Language Interpreter Center which trains bilingual Alaskans to work professionally as interpreters and translators and has trained over 400 Alaskans in more than 40 languages. The Language Interpreter Center also provides an interpreter/translator referral service to connect medical, legal and social service providers with trained interpreters and translators. The Research and Policy Institute focuses on climate justice issues affecting Alaska Native communities which are facing accelerating and severe environmental changes due to the climate crisis and urgently needs access to funding to adapt.

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at the bottom of the home page.
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another and to our larger community with
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***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 Tu 11-3; W and F 10-2, and by appointment

Tammie Stoops, Congregational Administrator, 907-248-3737 x1
Admin@anchorageUUF.org AUUF

Usually Monday - Thursday 10-2, plus additional hours. Please call before coming.

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

Esme Danner (she/her) Music Director
907-248-3737 x4
Music@anchorageuuf.org

Director of Religious Exploration,
Vacant, Please see our job description on AUUF [website](http://www.anchorageuuf.org) for more information.

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

Connect with us



Visit our website

AUUF Podcast

Donate



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Today At Our Fellowship

Thursday, January 25, 2023

This Weekend @ AUUF Find Zoom [links here.](#)

Thursday 1/25/24

5:30 pm Anti-Racism Team
6:30 pm Choir Rehearsal

Friday 1/26/24

8:45 am Music Together Mountain Song
12:00-2:00 pm Freethinkers at AUUF
only

Saturday 1/27/24

8:30-10:30 am AA Slap Happy Group
8:45 am Private Rental

Sunday 1/28/24

9:00 am The Forum **ONLY ON ZOOM**

11:00 am Sunday Worship **IN-
PERSON ONLY**

4:00 pm Anchorage Friends Meeting

Monday 1/29/24

6:30 pm Fireweed Sangha of Mindful
Living- Private Rental Visitors welcome

Tuesday 1/30/24

6:00 pm Community Connections

Wednesday 1/31/24

Thursday 2/1/24

6:30 pm Choir Rehearsal

Half Portion Recipient for January:

[Alaska Institute for Justice](#)



The Virtual Forum ONLY on Zoom 9:00 am Sunday, January 28, 2024
The Role of Trust in Professional Ethics
Terry Kelly, UAA Assoc. Prof. of Philosophy

The Forum

ONLY on Zoom
9:00 am January 28, 2024

[Click here for the Speaker's bio.](#)
[Click here to join on Zoom.](#)



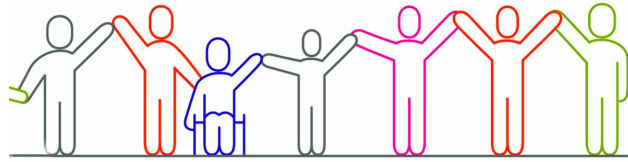
Sunday Worship IN PERSON only 10:00 am Sunday, January 28, 2024
Our UU Values: Liberating Love
Rev. Lise Sherry, Cassie Thomas, Maribeth Snell

Sunday Worship

IN PERSON & on Zoom
11:00 am January 28, 2024

[Click here to join on Zoom.](#)

STRONGER



TOGETHER

What's Fair ... As A Pledge?

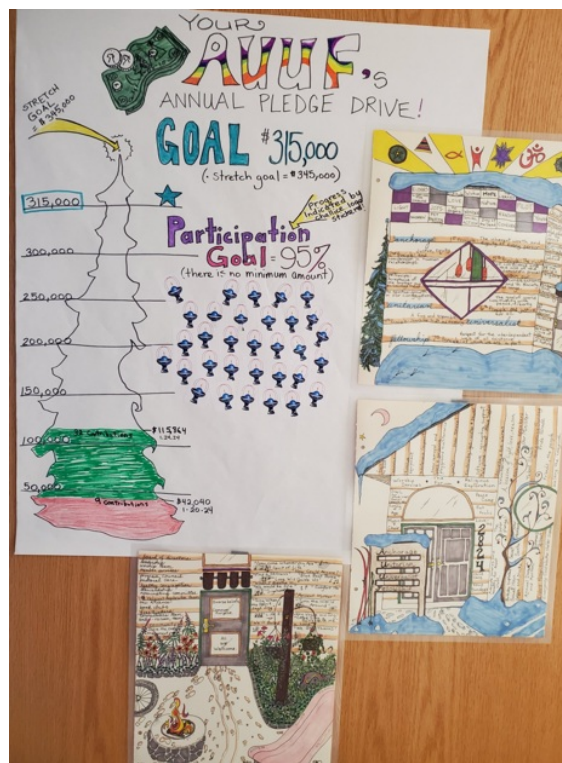
by Marie Lundstrom
Stewardship Committee

Fairness is tricky. Especially when money is involved. What may be a fair pledge for a single retiree on a limited income with occasional variations, like me, would probably not be a fair pledge for a family with three kids in college and probably not for a younger family with three grade-schoolers in R E. As they say, "It depends!"

It depends on how you budget your income, what's important to you on a week-to-week basis, how you value the community you've found in AUUF, and what your membership in AUUF ultimately means to you.

We have created a couple of Fair Share charts, which came along with the Pledge Form in the mail this past week. These charts can help you figure out percentages or amounts on a monthly or yearly basis that you could fit into your budget without giving up eggs, new underwear, or laundry soap—a financial bite you could live with.

If you haven't pledged before, the expectation is that, as a member, you will contribute financially, not just in the Sunday basket, but will promise money on a regular, reliable basis. That is pledging—money to count on. You will have to decide what fits your budget—what is a fair share for you as an AUUF member. What is not fair is not pledging at all.





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Thank you! Peggy Robinson

Information on UU General Assembly 2024

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[Click here to read the A/V functional needs list.](#)

LIVING LEGACY PROJECT

ALABAMA LIVING LEGACY PILGRIMAGE

Alabama Moments that Reverberated Throughout the World

5 Days / 4 Nights, April 2-6, 2024

INFO

On this Pilgrimage, you'll visit historic sites in Birmingham, Montgomery, and Selma, Alabama and meet unsung heroes and foot soldiers of the Civil Rights Movement.

As a spiritual pilgrimage, we'll reflect on what we experience together so when we return home, we can apply what we've learned to make a difference in today's world.

Find out more and register today! Livinglegacypilgrimage.org

Sunset on the Edmund Pettus Bridge, Selma, Alabama

Alabama Civil Rights Pilgrimage with the Living Legacy Project

2024 Civil Rights Pilgrimage to Alabama

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Director of Religious Exploration,
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AUUF Podcast

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Today At Our Fellowship
Thursday, January 4, 2023

This Weekend @ AUUF
Find Zoom [links here.](#)

Thursday 1/4/24
6:30 pm Choir Rehearsal

Friday 1/5/24
12:00-2:00 pm Freethinkers at AUUF
only

Saturday 1/6/24
8:30-10:30 am AA Slap Happy Group

Sunday 1/7/24

**9:00 am The Forum IN- PERSON & on
ZOOM**

**11:00 am Sunday Worship IN-
PERSON & on ZOOM**

12:30 pm Social Action Council

4:00 pm Anchorage Friends Meeting

Monday 1/8/24
6:30 pm Fireweed Sangha of Mindful
Living- Private Rental Visitors welcome

Tuesday 1/9/24
12:00 pm Staff Meeting
2:00 pm Hungry Book Club
6:00 pm Private Rental

Wednesday 1/10/24
6:00 pm Safer Congregation Team

Thursday 1/11/24
1:30 pm HR Committee Meeting
5:30 pm CYRE Team Meeting
6:30 pm Choir Rehearsal

Half Portion Recipient for January:
[Alaska Institute for Justice](#)



The Forum IN PERSON & on Zoom Sunday, January 7, 2024

Sailing Back to Bristol Bay—the Historic Journey of Restored Double-Ender Libby #76 from Homer Back to Naknek

Bristol Bay historian Tim Troll

The Forum

IN PERSON & on Zoom

9:00 am Sunday, January 7, 2024

Sailing Back to Bristol Bay—the Historic Journey of Restored Double-Ender Libby #76 from Homer Back to Naknek

Bristol Bay historian Tim Troll

[Click here for the Speaker's Bio](#)

[Click here to join on Zoom.](#)



Sunday Worship IN PERSON & on Zoom 11:00 am Sunday, January 7, 2024

Republican Motherhood: Judith Murray

Rev. Lise Adams Sherry, Barb Clark

Sunday Worship

IN PERSON & on Zoom

11:00 am January 7, 2024

Republican Motherhood: Judith Murray

Rev. Lise Adams Sherry, Barb Clark

[Click here to join on Zoom.](#)

Sunday Hospitality Sign-up

The Connections Team is inviting you to sign up to be a greeter, zoom usher, or social hour host this Sunday or any Sunday this month. Instructions can be downloaded from this link. If you have questions, email connections@anchorageuuf.org. Thanks for helping visitors to AUUF feel welcome!



Ready, Set, Die....

We plan for life's big events, birth, marriage, why not death?

The goal of this day-long workshop is to address physical, psycho-social, intellectual, and spiritual concerns and desires surrounding death, eliminating surprises to survivors and increasing the likelihood that your wishes and desires around death will be carried out.

This interactive workshop utilizes a variety of individual and group activities for skill development in these areas:

- Define for one's self what constitutes a good death.
- Examining and dispelling common fears around death.
- Building a tool chest of essential information to design a pathway for your loved ones.
- Use various communication means for farewells to friends and loved ones.
- Explore and strengthen spiritual aspects of your personal death plan.

Teresa Zimmer (RN/educator) and TK Kleiner (retired attorney/educator) share a passion for normalizing death and transforming the way we approach it. We believe that death planning promotes well-being and peace of mind for you and your survivors. This workshop will be time well spent, as you join with others to make plans for this important transition.

Ready, Set, Die

Thursday, January 18, 9:30-2:30 pm

Box Lunch included (vegetarian and omnivore options) please share your preference at registration.

\$130 per person, \$50 non-refundable deposit due at time of registration.

Payment by check or venmo

To register, please email ready.set.die.workshops@gmail.com or call Teresa at 907.331.7034, or TK at 907.317.2799

Class size is limited.

AUUF Website

anchorageuuf.org

Hi,

Just an update from Kelly, the AUUF communications specialist. You can use the AUUF website to do many of the following things! These options are listed in the colorful boxes on the left side of the home page

Covenant of Healthy Relations

AUUF Covenant
See upcoming Sunday Service titles
AUUF Covid Info & Incident reporting
Info about our Newsletter Today at our Fellowship
A link to subscribe to TAOF newsletter
Schedule a Zoom Meeting request form
Listen to past episodes of The Forum podcast
AUUF Job Openings
Share the Care links

In the large turquoise box at the top of the page- that surrounds the slideshow, you will find buttons for; Job openings, See the latest version of the AUUF TAOF newsletter Today at our Fellowship, and more!

We encourage you to take a look around and take advantage of the information available. You can also learn who the Half Portion recipient is or, find a link to make an online donation. Take a look, the website does change from time to time!

You can find two links to the calendar one is under the tab labeled WHAT'S HAPPENING, and an icon of a calendar at the bottom of the home page.

View the calendar to see what is scheduled in the future, both in the building and on Zoom. Zoom links are usually on the calendar. To schedule a meeting that is only in the building, you should contact AUUF admin Tammie admin@anchorageuuf.org or visit during office hours.

To schedule a meeting only on Zoom you can use the Schedule a Zoom meeting link in the navy blue box on the left side of the homepage or contact Kelly communications@anchorageuuf.org

Thanks,
Kelly
Feel free to contact me with any questions.

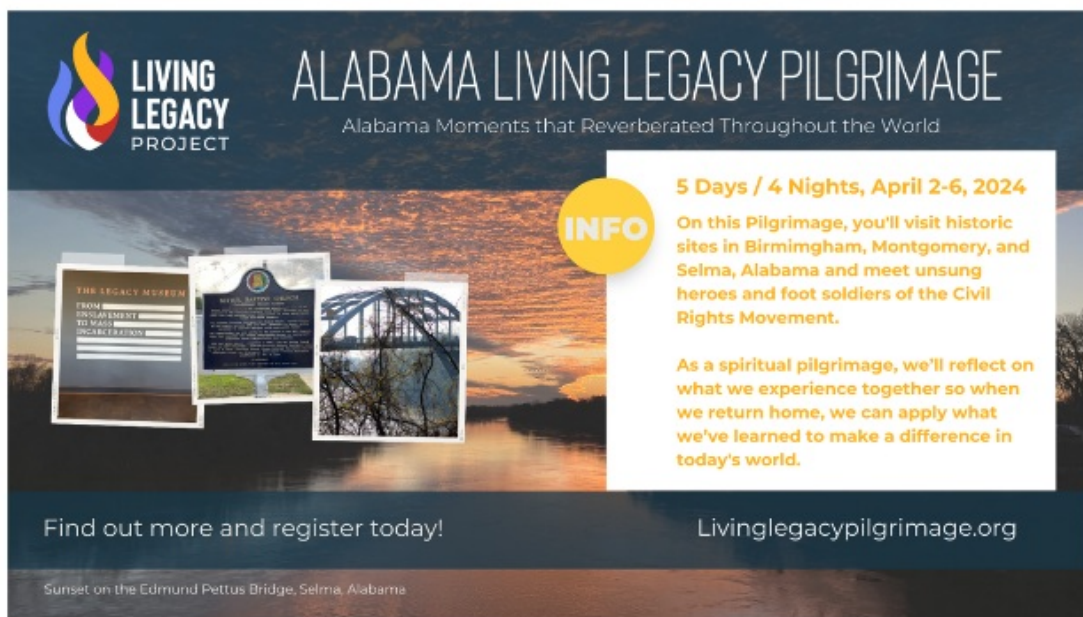
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January

HALF PORTION FOR SOCIAL ACTION:

Alaska Institute for Justice

Our mission is to promote and protect the human rights of all Alaskans including immigrants, refugees and Alaska Native communities by providing critical services to these underserved populations, including legal representation, language interpretative services, training and educational programs.

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5:30 pm CYRE Meeting on Zoom
6:30 pm Choir Rehearsal

Friday 1/12/24

12:00-2:00 pm Freethinkers at AUUF only

Saturday 1/13/24

8:30-10:30 am AA Slap Happy Group
6:00 pm Private Rental

Sunday 1/14/24

9:00 am The Virtual Forum **ONLY** on ZOOM

11:00 am Sunday Worship **IN-PERSON & on ZOOM**

12:30 pm The Alliance at AUUF
2:30 pm Worship Associate Meeting
4:00 pm Anchorage Friends Meeting

Monday 1/15/24

Martin Luther King Day
Offices closed

10:30 am Nominating Committee
6:30 pm Fireweed Sangha of Mindful Living- Private Rental Visitors welcome

Tuesday 1/16/24

5:30 pm Jerry's Group
5:30 pm Finance Committee Meeting
6:00 pm Community Connections

Wednesday 1/17/24

Thursday 1/18/24

9:00 am Ready Set Die Workshop
6:30 pm Board of Directors Meeting
6:30 pm Choir Rehearsal

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Religious Exploration Classes will start downstairs at 10 am.



The Virtual Forum on Zoom Sunday, 9:00 am January 14, 2024

Tackling Immigration, Human Trafficking, & Language Issues—AIJ's Year in Review

Indra Arriaga, Alaska Institute for Justice

The Virtual Forum

ONLY on Zoom

9:00 am Sunday, January 14, 2024

*Tackling Immigration, Human Trafficking,
& Language Issues—AIJ's Year in Review*

Indra Arriaga, Alaska Institute for Justice

[Click here to join on Zoom.](#)



Sunday Worship IN PERSON & on Zoom 11:00 am Sunday, January 14, 2024

Celebrating the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King: What Dr. King Told the UUs

Lauren Rench & Marty Freeman, Worship Associates

Sunday Worship

IN PERSON & on Zoom

11:00 am January 14, 2024

Celebrating the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King: What Dr. King Told the UUs

Lauren Rench & Marty Freeman, Worship Associates

In 1966, Rev. Dr. King gave the Ware Lecture at the UU General Assembly. Come hear what he told us then, and consider what his message means for us today.

[Click here to join on Zoom.](#)



Games Night at AUUF Jan. 20

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For more information or to register, email connections@anchorageuuf.org.

Freethinkers

Freethinkers discussion group meets every Friday at 12:00pm - 1:30pm in Room 7 downstairs at AUUF. We just finishing reading *A Thousand Trails Home* by Seth Kantner. Kantner is a talented author who describes growing up living in a sod igloo on the Kobuk river and then pursuing that life through adulthood. His perspectives and observations on our society and the changes he's seen are worth serious contemplation.

We had 13 titles nominated for this round. View the detailed information for a selection of some very thought provoking books. We dropped several books from the nomination list because no one offered to act as discussion moderator for them.

At our Jan 5 meeting, we selected our next two books. There was an exchange of what we know about some of the books and some advocacy. In the end, Cari made a list on a poster board and we each gave her our choices our three votes. We will take up *Dinners with Ruth* by Nina Totenberg which was nominated by Marie Lundstrom on January 19. Kalen Saxton will moderate. After that book, we will read *I've Been Thinking* by Daniel Dennett.

We will read the introductory material and the first three chapters of *Dinners with Ruth* for January 19.

[For further information from Freethinkers, click here](#)



What Pledges Do You Remember?

by Marie Lundstrom
Stewardship Committee

Thinking about pledges and pledging, do you remember what pledges you had to learn and say in organizations? Of course you remember the U.S. Pledge of Allegiance. I learned it long before “under God” was added, and I always say it as I initially learned it, in first grade most likely, without the addition. Did you learn a pledge for Boy or Girl Scouts, Campfire, FFA, sorority/fraternity, fraternal group? Out of the three or four I must have learned, I remember only one—for 4-H Club: I pledge my Head to clearer thinking, my Heart to greater loyalty, my Hands to larger service, and my Health to better living, for my club, my community, and my country.”

I think the 4-H pledge is the best one I've come across. It comes to mind every time I write about pledging money to AUUF, which seems crass compared to the idealistic 4-H pledge of better personal behavior, nothing to do with money. We at AUUF have high-minded talk about pledging Time, Talent, and Treasure, and all are necessary to keep AUUF running. But the hard truth is that without the Treasure part, AUUF would go away. Time and Talent can't buy fuel or electricity or pay salaries. Our organization is based on money, just as all our members need incomes to stay warm, eat, and live in reasonable comfort.

So, when we talk, encourage, remind, send emails, show videos, post charts, make phone calls, and do our best to saturate the AUUF airwaves for a month in January/February with persuasive wordage about pledging, we are getting to the basics, the nitty-gritty, the bottom line. There's nothing high-minded about a pledge drive—AUUF needs your money to stay alive. You will be hearing more from us soon.

Anti-Racism Team Corner

MLK Day Solidarity Cultural Celebration

Monday January 15th, 2024. 6:30 PM - Bettye Davis East High

The Alaska Black Caucus is proud to present the second annual Martin Luther King Community-Wide Celebration “Solidarity Weekend,” showcasing Alaska's cultural performances while promoting the importance of VOTING. This is a free event.

PS - We attended this event last year and it was FANTASTIC! Entertainment was provided by many cultural groups in Anchorage. (Michele and George)



WhaleCoast Hosts - Save the Date!

Our WhaleCoast guests will be in Anchorage June 15-17 and 19-20, and on July 24-26. Hosting these UU visitors from across the country is a rewarding experience and a great fundraiser for us! Last year we made about \$22,000 and had just enough beds. Please save these dates if you are interested in providing a comfortable bed and hospitality for one or more people. The banquets will be on Sunday, June 16 and Thursday, July 25, where we will also need a number of volunteers. There are also other volunteer opportunities during their stay. Later in April I'll start gathering host and volunteer information.

If you have questions now, you may email me at probinson@ak.net.

Thank you! Peggy Robinson

Ready, Set, Die....

We plan for life's big events, birth, marriage, why not death?

The goal of this day-long workshop is to address physical, psycho-social, intellectual, and spiritual concerns and desires surrounding death, eliminating surprises to survivors and increasing the likelihood that your wishes and desires around death will be carried out.

This interactive workshop utilizes a variety of individual and group activities for skill development in these areas:

- Define for one's self what constitutes a good death.
- Examining and dispelling common fears around death.
- Building a tool chest of essential information to design a pathway for your loved ones.
- Use various communication means for farewells to friends and loved ones.
- Explore and strengthen spiritual aspects of your personal death plan.

Teresa Zimmer (RN/educator) and TK Kleiner (retired attorney/educator) share a passion for normalizing death and transforming the way we approach it. We believe that death planning promotes well-being and peace of mind for you and your survivors. This workshop will be time well spent, as you join with others to make plans for this important transition.

Ready, Set, Die

Thursday, January 18, 9:30-2:30 pm

Box Lunch included (vegetarian and omnivore options) please share your preference at registration.

\$130 per person, \$50 non-refundable deposit due at time of registration.

Payment by check or venmo

To register, please email ready.set.die.workshops@gmail.com or call Teresa at 907.331.7034, or TK at 907.317.2799

Class size is limited.

Information on UU General Assembly 2024

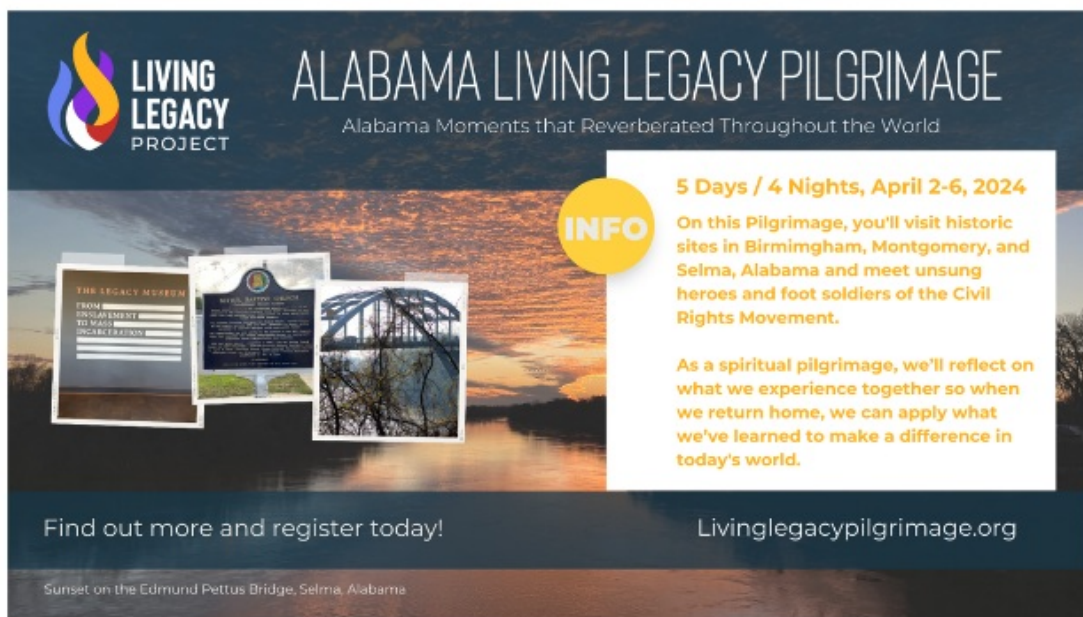
[Click here to read more.](#)

Audiovisual Coordinator Position at AUUF

AUUF is seeking an A/V coordinator to assist with Sunday Services. This position is open to members/friends of AUUF. Please read more at the links below.

[Click here to read the full job description.](#)

[Click here to read the A/V functional needs list.](#)



Alabama Civil Rights Pilgrimage with the Living Legacy Project

2024 Civil Rights Pilgrimage to Alabama

The Living Legacy Project is scheduling an April pilgrimage to key sites from the Civil Rights Movement in Alabama. This is an amazing opportunity to learn about events that led to the passage of the 1964 Civil Rights Act and the 1965 National Voting Rights Act and meet with people who were active in the Movement in that era. Rev. Lise, Marty Freeman (martyw@ak.net), and Robin and Erik Hill (akhills@ak.net) have all participated in a Living Legacy Pilgrimage and highly recommend it. If you are interested, you are welcome to contact any of us to learn more, and [check out the website](https://livinglegacyproject.org).

The registration deadline for this trip is February 2, 2024, and there is some scholarship funding available. Another Alabama Living Legacy Pilgrimage is in development for May 22-26, 2024. [For more information check the website, click here](https://livinglegacyproject.org).



January

HALF PORTION FOR SOCIAL ACTION:

Alaska Institute for Justice

AIJ is an award-winning non-profit agency dedicated to protecting the human rights of Alaskans. AIJ houses three programs: Alaska Immigration Justice Project which is the only agency in Alaska providing critical immigration legal services to immigrant domestic violence, sexual assault and human trafficking survivors. Our work with human trafficking survivors also includes US citizens. The Language Interpreter Center which trains bilingual Alaskans to work professionally as interpreters and translators and has trained over 400 Alaskans in more than 40 languages. The Language Interpreter Center also provides an interpreter/translator referral service to connect medical, legal and social service providers with trained interpreters and translators. The Research and Policy Institute focuses on climate justice issues affecting Alaska Native communities which are facing accelerating and severe environmental changes due to the climate crisis and urgently needs access to funding to adapt.

Go to anchorageuuf.org
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RevLise@anchorageUUF.org

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Tammie Stoops, Congregational Administrator, 907-248-3737 x1

Admin@anchorageUUF.org AUUF

Usually Monday - Thursday 10-2, plus additional hours. Please call before coming.

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Kelly's remote office hours Mon-Fri 9 am -1 pm

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*diverse beliefs,
common purpose.*

Today At Our Fellowship Thursday, February 8, 2024

This Weekend @ AUUF Find Zoom [links here.](#)

Thursday 2/8/24

5:30 pm CYRE Team Meeting
6:30 pm Choir Rehearsal

Friday 2/9/24

11:15 am Music Together Mountain
Song
12:00-2:00 pm Freethinkers at AUUF
only

Saturday 2/10/24

8:30-10:30 am AA Slap Happy Group
8:45-12:15 pm Private Rental
1:30-2:30 pm Private Rental
6:00 pm start Youth Lock-in
6:00-8:30 pm Private Rental

Sunday 2/11/24

9:00 am The Forum **ONLY** on Zoom

11:00 am Sunday Worship **IN-
PERSON & on Zoom**

Youth Lock-in continues
12:30 pm The Alliance
1:30 pm Worship Associate Meeting
4:00 pm Anchorage Friends Meeting

Monday 2/12/24

4:00 pm Private Rental
6:30 pm Fireweed Sangha of Mindful
Living- Private Rental Visitors welcome

Tuesday 2/13/24

2:00 pm Hungry Book Club
5:30 pm Finance Committee Meeting
6:00 pm Community Connections

Wednesday 2/14/24

6:00 pm Safer Congregation Team
Meeting

Thursday 2/15/24

6:30 pm Board of Directors Meeting
6:30 pm Choir Rehearsal

Half Portion Recipient for February:
[PILOT Payment in Lieu of Taxes](#)



The Forum only on Zoom

9:00 am Sunday, February 11, 2024

One Man's Journey: Civil Rights Activism from the South to Alaska

Dr. Cal Williams

The Forum

Only on Zoom

9:00 am February 11, 2024

[Click here for the Speaker's bio.](#)

[Click here to join on Zoom.](#)



Celebrating Community Ministry



Sunday Worship Live at AUUF & on Zoom 11:00 am Sunday, February 11, 2024

Celebrating Community Ministry

Becca Bernard, Worship Leader; Barb Clark, Worship Associate;

Esme Danner, Music Director

Sunday Worship

Live at AUUF & and on Zoom

11:00 am February 11, 2024

Celebrating Community Ministry

Becca Bernard, Worship Leader; Barb Clark, Worship Associate; Esme Danner, Music Director

Today we are joining many Unitarian Universalist congregations around the country in devoting one Sunday worship service in February to a celebration of community ministry. What is community ministry, you ask? Join us on Sunday to learn all about it, in a fun, active, multigenerational service of celebration!

Outdoor time for RE Feb 11

We are tentatively planning some time outdoors for the K-5 kids the next couple of weeks. We may do some shoveling and clean up around the fire pit on Feb 4, and then outdoor activity or fire on Feb 11. Parents, please have kids bring warm clothes for the next couple of Sundays, and also small shovels, if they have them

[Click here to join on Zoom.](#)



High School Youth Lock-in Feb. 10

All AUUF high school youth, grades 9-12 are welcome to the lock-in (sleepover) this Saturday, Feb. 10. It starts at 6 pm, pizza will be supplied for dinner and the main project is preparing baked goods to sell at the worship service on Feb. 11. Money from the bake sale will go to events planned by the youth. Don't forget to bring your sleeping bag, pillow and toothbrush. If you have more questions, contact Jim Kerr at jim.the.juggler@gmail.com.

Join the Anti-Racism Team at the Bettie Davis Summit on February 10

The Alaska Black Caucus is hosting the Bettie Davis African American Summit at Bettie Davis East High School on Saturday, February 10, from 9 am-5 pm. A few folks from the AUUF Anti-Racism Team will be going together, meeting up in the East High atrium (on the Bragaw side) at 1 pm. We welcome other AUUF friends to join us there!



The Time is Now—Send In Your Pledge!

by Marie Lundstrom Stewardship Committee

Ten days from now, February 18, our pledge drive will officially end—only it won't, really. If you've forgotten to send in your pledge, you will hear from us this week and next by phone, email, or in person to remind you that AUUF needs your money to stay operating. You may forget, but we won't.

Much as we don't enjoy making those reminder phone calls or emails, or snagging your

attention in person at a service, your support is vital to AUUF, so we'll make those calls and emails. Board members, Stewardship folks, and others will call and ask if you received your pledge form—be sure to check your junk mail—and encourage you to send it in.

And before you send in that pledge form, please increase the amount you pledge. Inflation has chewed into AUUF's money as it has into your budget—everything costs more, so an additional \$5 or \$10 per month from each member could make the difference in what we can afford this year. Think hard on it.

Here is the pledge drive chart showing how much has been pledged and how much more we need to achieve our goal in ten days.

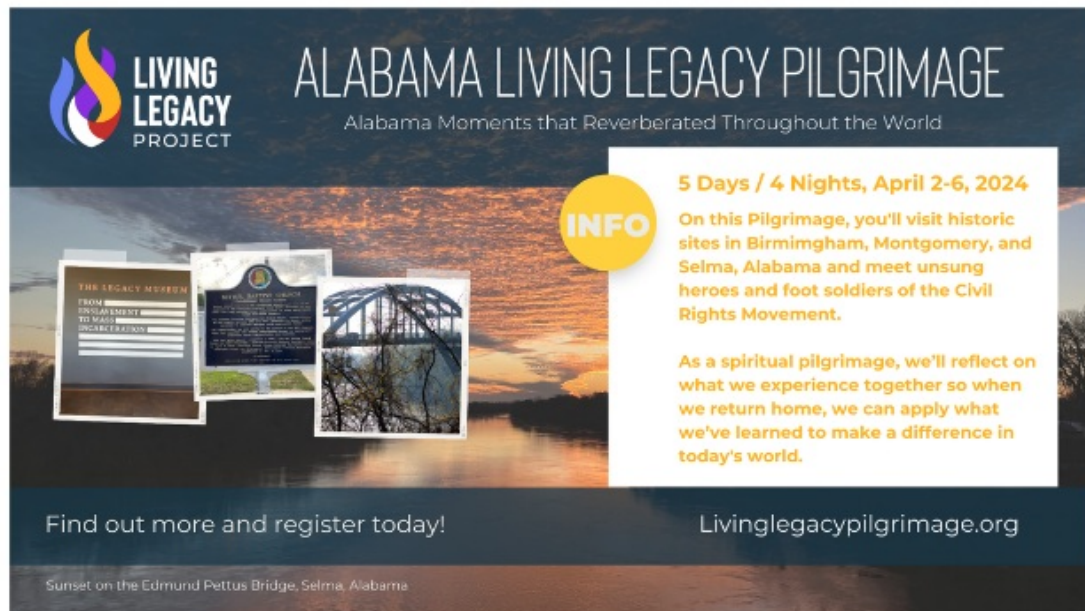


Finding Your Way to Fellowship Classes coming soon!

If you are newer to AUUF, perhaps interested in membership, or simply want to learn more about the UU Fellowship, we invite you to participate in the next "Finding Your Way into

Fellowship” 3-session class (Feb. 18, 25, March 3). These are held on 3 consecutive Sunday afternoons, and offer folks time to really learn about UU, AUUF, and how it fits into their own spiritual journey. The classes will be in person at AUUF and are conducted by Rev. Lise and members of the Connections Team. Plan on having lunch on us, and begin each class at 12:30 until about 2:00 pm.

Please email connections@anchorageuuf.org for questions or to sign up. We look forward to seeing you there!



Alabama Civil Rights Pilgrimage with the Living Legacy Project

2024 Civil Rights Pilgrimage to Alabama

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February 2024 HALF PORTION FOR SOCIAL ACTION:

PAYMENT IN LIEU OF TAXES (PILOT)

Dennis Arashiro

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purpose in line with our principles. Only the municipality has the resources and authority to truly tackle the problem of homelessness as a community-wide issue. Only the municipality through its ordinances can ensure equal rights for all regardless of race, color, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, religion, national origin, marital status, age, or physical or mental disability. Only the municipality advances learning through a network of public libraries to serve neighborhoods throughout our community. PILOT shows that we support what advances our own principles.

When we make our collections this month at our Sunday services, half our contributions will go to the Municipality of Anchorage. The message we will be sending is that we appreciate and support the municipality for all that it does. From ensuring the safety of our streets to ensuring the safety of our neighbors who are between homes. From illuminating our thoroughfares to illuminating minds. Serving all of us in so many ways as neighbors of truly equal standing. Please give thought to this when you give in person this month on Sundays or online through the following link:

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FELLOWSHIP
*diverse beliefs,
common purpose.*

Today At Our Fellowship Thursday, February 15, 2024

This Weekend @ AUUF Find Zoom [links here.](#)

Thursday 2/15/24

6:30 pm Board of Directors Meetings
6:30 pm Choir Rehearsal

Friday 2/16/24

11:15 am Music Together Mountain Song
12:00-2:00 pm Freethinkers at AUUF only

Saturday 2/17/24

8:30-10:30 am AA Slap Happy Group
8:45-12:15 pm Private Rental
10:30 am Private Rental
1:00-3:00 pm Private Rental

Sunday 2/18/24

9:00 am The Forum IN- PERSON & on Zoom

11:00 am Sunday Worship IN- PERSON & on Zoom

12:30 pm Finding Your Way to Fellowship

4:00 pm Anchorage Friends Meeting

Monday 2/19/24

President's Day Offices closed
10:30 am Nominating Committee on Zoom
6:30 pm Fireweed Sangha of Mindful Living- Private Rental Visitors welcome

Tuesday 2/20/24

2:00 pm Hungry Book Club
5:30 pm Jerry's Group
6:00 pm Community Connections

Wednesday 2/21/24

Thursday 2/22/24

5:30 pm Anti-Racism Team
6:30 pm Choir Rehearsal

Half Portion Recipient for February:
[PILOT Payment in Lieu of Taxes](#)

Sad News

With sadness, we wanted to let you know that we recently heard about the death of James Wardman, a longtime member of the Fellowship. Jim was especially fond of the Forum and had moved into assisted living in Palmer after



suffering several strokes in recent years. The family had a Celebration of Life for him in Wisconsin, in October 2023.

[Click here for a link to his obituary.](#)

Please join me in sending Jim's family and friends love and healing support.

Warm regards, Rev. Lise



The Forum IN PERSON & on Zoom 9:00 am Sunday, February 18, 2024
Japanese American Day of Remembrance: History, Poems and Relevance Today
Lawrence Matsuda

The Forum

**Live at AUUF & and on Zoom
9:00 am February 18, 2024**

[Click here for the Speaker's bio.](#)

[Click here to join on Zoom.](#)



DAY OF REMEMBRANCE

A 2-DAY SPECIAL EVENT FEATURING WRITER AND
POET, DR. LAWRENCE MATSUDA, AUTHOR OF "A
COLD WIND FROM IDAHO" AND "A MINIDOKA
CONCENTRATION CAMP LEGACY."

FEBRUARY 18, 2024
9:00 AM



ANCHORAGE UNITARIAN
UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP
2824 EAST 18TH AVENUE
(ONLINE AND IN-PERSON)

FEBRUARY 19, 2024
2:00 PM

ALASKA PACIFIC UNIVERSITY
4101 UNIVERSITY DRIVE
CARR-GOTTSTEIN LECTURE HALL
(IN-PERSON)



RSVP HERE

OR CONTACT KELLY MARCIALES
KMARCIALES@ALASKAPACIFIC.EDU

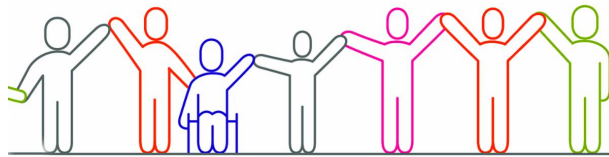
Sunday Worship

Live at AUUF & and on Zoom
11:00 am February 18, 2024

With Rev. Lise & Lauren Rench, Worship associate

[Click here to join on Zoom.](#)

STRONGER



TOGETHER

Find That “Sweet Spot”

by Marie Lundstrom

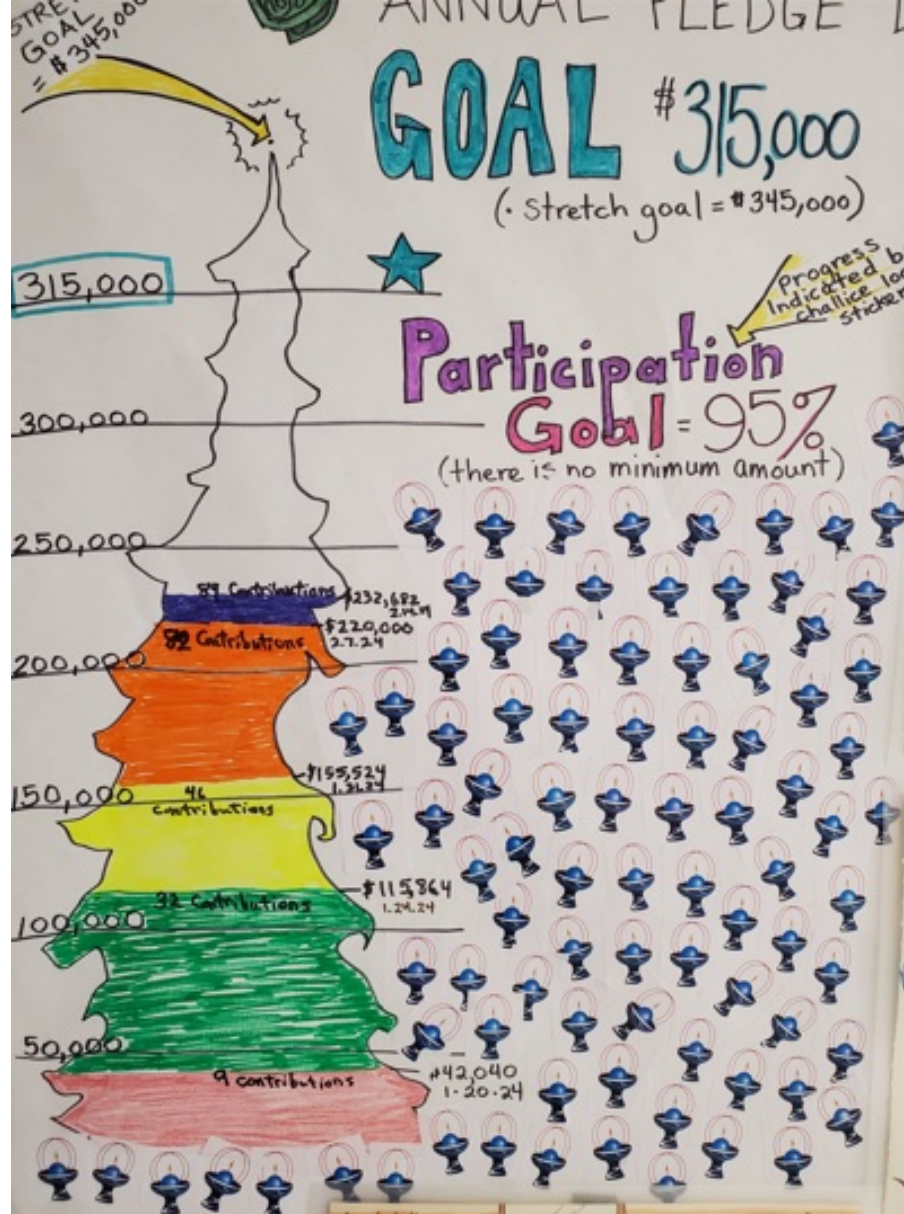
Stewardship Committee

There's a point for all of us where our choices feel right all the way to our toes. Donna Massey talked about that in her video last Sunday, how she likes to pledge and pay at the point where it “feels good” for her. I'd call that a “sweet spot,” a point of comfort and rightness, where the amount, the timing, and the recipient all “fit,” and you feel good!

That “sweet spot” is what we hope for all our pledging AUUF Members and Friends, with “now” timing, since our pledge drive will end this coming Sunday, February 18. If you can get your pledges in by then, you will be helping us toward a “sweet spot” of achievement of our campaign goal.

Whatever the results are by Sunday, we will celebrate with a lunch put on by the Alliance after the 11 am Worship Service for everyone present. And there may be something “sweet” for all of us with a sweet tooth for the sugary stuff (and chocolate!). Come and join us!

And so you'll know where we are in our campaign, check the chart.

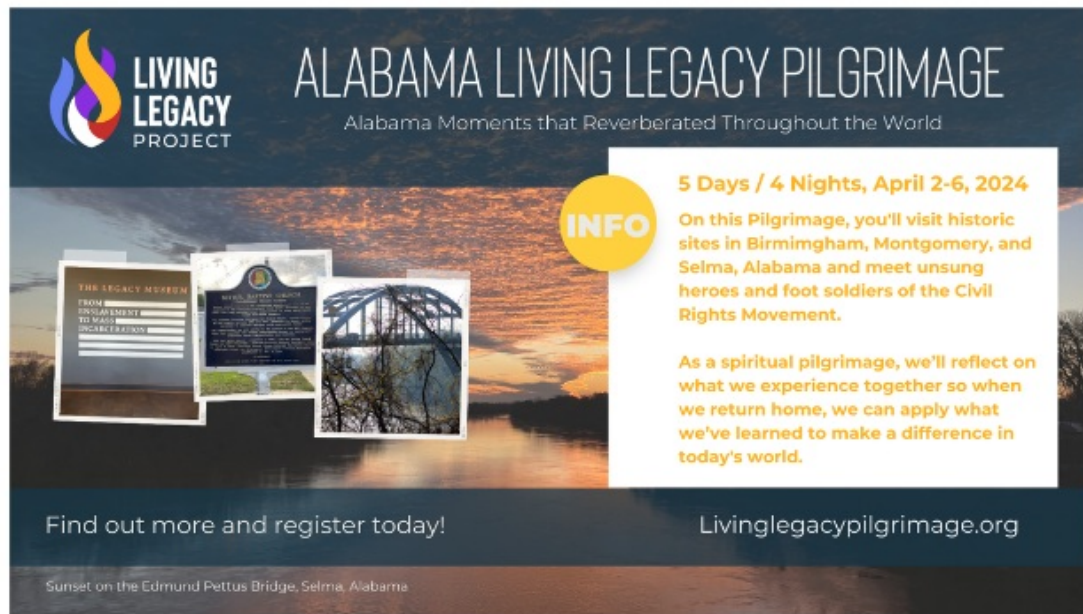


Finding Your Way to Fellowship Class POSTPONED

The Connections Team had scheduled our 3-session class to begin this Sunday Feb.18, but we've decided to postpone it until we can get more people onboard. Please watch for future announcements to hold the classes starting in mid-March or April. Thank you!

A Message from your Endowment Fund Committee

During this time of year, there are two things we would like to remind you of related to AUUF. It is the time where we all turn to each other and ask each other to commit to funding the ongoing costs of AUUF through a pledge. It costs a lot of money to keep AUUF-led, staffed, and thriving. We encourage you to think of the recommended 5% if you have an ongoing income – or as generous as you can be if you are retired or otherwise disconnected from an ongoing income. The second thing is your long-term investment in AUUF through the Endowment Fund. This Fund primarily grows through designated giving in people's wills when they pass on – but can also grow through any one-time gift-giving at any time. If you have not included AUUF in your will or as an investment beneficiary, now is the time to do so. Remember that any giving to AUUF will have a big impact, as opposed to leaving gifts to large



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common purpose.*

Today At Our Fellowship
Thursday, February 22, 2024

This Weekend @ AUUF
Find Zoom [links here.](#)

Thursday 2/22/24

6:30 pm Choir Rehearsal

Friday 2/23/24

11:15 am Music Together Mountain Song

12:00-2:00 pm Freethinkers at AUUF only

Saturday 2/24/24

8:30-10:30 am AA Slap Happy Group

8:45-12:15 pm Private Rental

10:30 am Private Rental

5:30 pm Paint Night Auction Event

Sunday 2/25/24

9:00 am The Forum IN- PERSON & on Zoom

11:00 am Sunday Worship IN-PERSON & on Zoom

4:00 pm Anchorage Friends Meeting

Monday 2/26/24

4:00 pm Private Rental

6:30 pm Fireweed Sangha of Mindful

Living- Private Rental Visitors welcome

Tuesday 2/27/24

6:00 pm Program Council

6:00 pm Community Connections

Wednesday 2/28/24

Thursday 2/29/24

6:30 pm Choir Rehearsal

Half Portion Recipient for February:

[PILOT Payment in Lieu of Taxes](#)



The Forum IN PERSON & on Zoom 9:00 am Sunday, February 25, 2024

Why I Want to Be Your Mayor

Chris Tuck

The Forum

**Live at AUUF & and on Zoom
9:00 am February 25, 2024**

Why I Want To Be Your Mayor
Chris Tuck

[Click here for the Speaker's bio.](#)
[Click here to join on Zoom.](#)



Sunday Worship



Sunday Worship IN PERSON & on Zoom
11:00 am Sunday, February 25, 2024

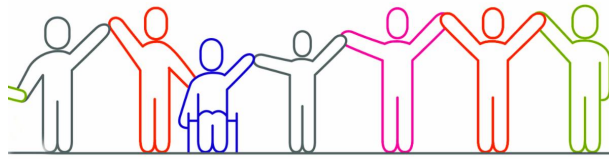
Sunday Worship

**Live at AUUF & and on Zoom
11:00 am February 25, 2024**

Being a Queer Black Ally
Rev. Lise Adams Sherry, Maribeth Snell, Worship Associate

[Click here to join on Zoom.](#)

STRONGER



TOGETHER

Wrapping Up the Pledge Drive— What It Means Going Forward

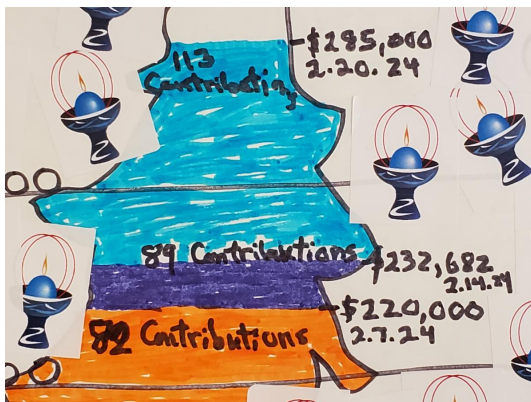
by Marie Lundstrom
Stewardship Committee

AUUF has \$285,000 committed from 113 pledging units (out of 143) with \$30,000 yet to go to reach our \$315,000 goal and \$60,000 away from our stretch goal. We have yet to hear from many folks.

If you are among the 30 unheard-from pledging units, and you are on automatic pay, but you haven't yet told us to keep expecting your money, please send us an email to stewardship@anchorageuuf.org right away. We can't just assume your pledge will continue as before; we need you to tell us. We have to know we can count on you.

Going forward, the AUUF Board will decide on March 5 what budget to present to the membership at the May 5 Annual Meeting. That budget will reflect what we have committed to us at the time. If you are among the 30 unheard-from pledging units, but you haven't pledged at all, think hard on it—even \$10 or \$25 a month can make a difference in what we can budget for.

Thanks to all who have pledged, all who are continuing to pledge, those who increased their pledge, and those who are strongly considering pledging for the first time. Every bit of support is valuable and vital. Check the chart to see your commitment so far!



Please help us get the word out!- PWR Regional Assembly!

Connect with other UUs in the Pacific Western Region. Our 4th Regional Assembly will be held in Denver on April 19 and 20, at the beautiful First Universalist Church. You can attend either in person or online. The keynote address will feature a conversation between our UUA President Rev. Dr. Sofia Betancourt and the new President of the United Church of Christ, Rev. Dr. Karen Georgia A. Thompson. There will be inspirational worship, workshops, and a craft room. There will be a reception Friday evening. We will also host a continental breakfast and catered lunch on Saturday. This is a family friendly event, with childcare.

A block of rooms has been reserved at the Courtyard Marriot Hotel Cherry Creek. Sign up for no-host dinner groups on Saturday evening to continue the conversations. We hope to connect with you at RA! [Register Today here.](#)

A Message from your Endowment Fund Committee

During this time of year, there are two things we would like to remind you of related to AUUF. It is the time where we all turn to each other and ask each other to commit to funding the ongoing costs of AUUF through a pledge. It costs a lot of money to keep AUUF-led, staffed, and thriving. We encourage you to think of the recommended 5% if you have an ongoing income – or as generous as you can be if you are retired or otherwise disconnected from an ongoing income. The second thing is your long-term investment in AUUF through the Endowment Fund. This Fund primarily grows through designated giving in people's wills when they pass on – but can also grow through any one-time gift-giving at any time. If you have not included AUUF in your will or as an investment beneficiary, now is the time to do so. Remember that any giving to AUUF will have a big impact, as opposed to leaving gifts to large organizations. Please update your will and/or beneficiaries and include AUUF.

February 2024 HALF PORTION FOR SOCIAL ACTION:

PAYMENT IN LIEU OF TAXES (PILOT)

Dennis Arashiro

Too often the motivation for the Fellowship making an annual payment to the Municipality of Anchorage in lieu of property taxes is seen as a very ordinary one: the obligation to pay for street and sidewalk maintenance, fire fighting and law enforcement, services we need for our building and grounds. Yet, there is a higher purpose in line with our principles. Only the municipality has the resources and authority to truly tackle the problem of homelessness as a community-wide issue. Only the municipality through its ordinances can ensure equal rights for all regardless of race, color, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, religion, national origin, marital status, age, or physical or mental disability. Only the municipality advances learning through a network of public libraries to serve neighborhoods throughout our community. PILOT shows that we support what advances our own principles.

When we make our collections this month at our Sunday services, half our contributions will go to the Municipality of Anchorage. The message we will be sending is that we appreciate and support the municipality for all that it does. From ensuring the safety of our streets to ensuring the safety of our neighbors who are between homes. From illuminating our thoroughfares to illuminating minds. Serving all of us in so many ways as neighbors of truly equal standing. Please give thought to this when you give in person this month on Sundays or online through the following link:

Go to anchorageuuf.org
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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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.



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FELLOWSHIP
*diverse beliefs,
common purpose.*

Today At Our Fellowship
Thursday, February 29, 2024

This Weekend @ AUUF
Find Zoom [links here.](#)

Thursday 2/29/24

6:30 pm Choir Rehearsal

Friday 3/1/24

First Day of Women's History Month

9:15 am-11:15 am Music Together

Mountain Song

12:00-2:00 pm Freethinkers at AUUF
only

Saturday 3/2/24

8:30-10:30 am AA Slap Happy Group

8:45-12:15 pm Private Rental

10:30 am Private Rental

1:00 pm Private Rental

Sunday 3/3/24

9:00 am The Forum IN- PERSON & on
Zoom

11:00 am Sunday Worship IN-
PERSON & on Zoom

12:15 pm Social Action Council Meeting

4:00 pm Anchorage Friends Meeting

Monday 3/4/24

4:00 pm Private Rental

6:30 pm Fireweed Sangha of Mindful

Living- Private Rental Visitors welcome

Tuesday 3/5/24

4:30 pm Forum Planning Meeting

6:00 pm Community Connections

Wednesday 3/6/24

5:00 pm Connections Team Meeting

7:00 pm Building & Grounds Meeting

Thursday 3/7/24

6:30 pm Choir Rehearsal

Half Portion Recipient for February:

[**PILOT Payment in Lieu of Taxes**](#)



The Forum 9:00 am Sunday, March 3, 2024 IN PERSON & on Zoom
Why I Want to Be Your Mayor
Bill Popp

The Forum

Live at AUUF & and on Zoom
9:00 am March 3, 2024

[Click here for the Speaker's bio.](#)
[Click here to join on Zoom.](#)

A Note About Mayoral Candidates at the Forum

This Sunday, March 3, will be our **last Forum with candidates for Mayor of Anchorage** in this year's election. Our speaker will be Bill Popp, in person at our Fellowship, as well as on Zoom. Each of the candidates has made the effort to join us in person, and it is always nice for them (as well as our other speakers) to see people in the chairs in front of them even if they know there are many more listening by Zoom and able to post questions in the Chat.

The recordings of each candidate's appearance at the Forum will be available in our AUUF Podcasts for anyone to listen to between now and the election. **Suzanne LaFrance**, spoke on February 4, and **Chris Tuck** spoke at the **February 25** Forum. The fourth principal candidate, current Mayor **Dave Bronson**, did not elect to respond to our invitation. Each candidate chose the date of their appearance from our available dates, "first come, first served" based on when they responded to our invitation, which was sent to everyone at once. All were given the opportunity to appear in person (and all chose to do that). The same title has been used for all the candidate Forums•

The Anchorage City Charter provides that "all municipal elections shall be nonpartisan." In any event, **AUUF does not** and will not **endorse, support or oppose candidates** for this or any other elective office.

We hope you've found these candidate Forums useful and interesting. The Forum Committee would appreciate your **feedback** about this, which you can email to mckay@alaska.net.



Sunday Worship



Sunday Worship In person & on Zoom
11:00 am Sunday, March 3, 2024

Sunday Worship

Live at AUUF & and on Zoom
11:00 am March 3, 2024

[Click here to join on Zoom.](#)



DON'T TAKE THE BAIT

Members know they should ask the UUC office, not other members, for contact information. Don't respond to emails asking for member contacts. If you're ever suspicious about a message in your inbox, it's best to avoid sending a response. By responding, you're letting the scammer know that they're dealing with an active email address. This can prompt them to continue trying to scam you in the future.

Administrator

Now Accepting Applications!

Do you know someone who is organized and detail-oriented, has great customer service skills, and you think would fit in well with our congregation? We are now accepting applications for the Congregational Administrator position. It is approximately 20 hours per week, mainly in the office during the day, and performs a wide variety of administrative tasks with minimal guidance.

Click on the job description link for full information about the position.

To apply:

1. Read more about us on our website and our national organization's website, uua.org.
2. Submit a resume and a cover letter describing why you want to work for AUUF in this position and how you meet the listed qualifications.
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March sign-ups for Sunday hospitality are ready. Please consider helping out so our visitors (especially NEW visitors) feel welcome and have a friendly person to talk to when they come through the door. Our Zoom attendees likewise enjoy being welcomed by a "Zoom" usher. Please click on the button below to sign-up, or email connections@anchorageuuf.org if you have questions. Thanks to all who are helping!



Find Your Way to Fellowship! Classes Rescheduled

If you are newer to AUUF, or simply want to learn more about the UU Fellowship, we invite you to participate in the next "Finding Your Way into Fellowship" 3-session class (March 10, 17 and 24). These are held on 3 consecutive Sunday afternoons, and offer folks time to really learn about UU, AUUF, and how it fits into their own spiritual journey. The classes will be in person at AUUF and are conducted by Rev. Lise and members of the Connections Team. Plan on having lunch on us, and begin each class at 12:30 until about 2:00 pm. Childcare also available!

Please RSVP by MARCH 4 by talking to Denise Martin, or email connections@anchorageuuf.org for questions. We look forward to seeing you there!

March 2024
HALF PORTION FOR SOCIAL ACTION:

MARCH 2024 HALF PORTION FOR SOCIAL ACTIONS

"Do what you can, with what you have, where you are." - Teddy Roosevelt

Earth Hour: 8:30 PM local time throughout the world, Saturday, March 23, 2024. Originating in 2007 with the World Wildlife Fund, Earth Hour is an annual event to turn off non-essential electric lights for a single hour. A single small step that is both a symbolic gesture to address climate change and an action with positive tangible results. Research indicates 274 instances of observable reductions in electrical consumption, to the tune of an overall 4 percent change. An hour of hope to fight the despair that can come when facing a global threat. To align ourselves with this positive step, we have designated Citizens' Climate Change Education as the recipient of the March 2024 Half Portion for Social Action.

Citizens' Climate Education (CCE) is a nonpartisan grassroots advocacy organization that empowers people from diverse backgrounds to educate key stakeholders, policymakers and the general public about effective solutions to climate change. Alongside its sister organization, Citizens' Climate Lobby, the CCE works to build political will for impactful climate solutions. For the entire month of April, half our Sunday collections will go to this cause.

You can contribute in person at our Sunday services or online by clicking the following link:

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*diverse beliefs,
common purpose.*

Today At Our Fellowship
Thursday, March 7, 2024

This Weekend @ AUUF
Find Zoom [links here.](#)

Thursday 3/7/24

6:30 pm Choir Rehearsal

Friday 3/8/24

9:15 am-11:15 am Music Together

Mountain Song

12:00-2:00 pm Freethinkers at AUUF
only

Saturday 3/9/24

8:30-10:30 am AA Slap Happy Group

8:45-12:15 pm Private Rental

10:30 am Private Rental

4:00 pm Romantic concerts

6:00 pm Alaska Goddess Network

Sunday 3/10/24

9:00 am The Forum only on Zoom

11:00 am Sunday Worship IN-
PERSON & on Zoom

12:30 pm Finding Your Way to
Fellowship

12:30 pm The Alliance

4:00 pm Anchorage Friends Meeting

Monday 3/11/24

6:30 pm Fireweed Sangha of Mindful
Living- Private Rental Visitors welcome

Tuesday 3/12/24

2:00 pm Hungry Book Club

6:00 pm Community Connections

Wednesday 3/13/24

6:00 pm Safer Congregation Team

Thursday 3/14/24

1:30 pm HR Committee Meeting

6:30 pm Choir Rehearsal

Half Portion Recipient for March
[CITIZENS' CLIMATE EDUCATION](#)



The Forum Sunday, March 10, 2024 Zoom Only
Living Conditions, Reentry Challenges & Civil Liberties of Alaska's Prisoners
Megan Edge, ACLU & Robert Churchill, NAACP

The Forum

Only on Zoom
9:00 am March 10, 2024

[Click here for the Speaker's bio.](#)
[Click here to join on Zoom.](#)



Sunday Worship



Sunday Worship Live at AUUF & and on Zoom 11:00 am March 10, 2024
In Their Footsteps: Stories from the Living Legacy Project civil rights pilgrimage to Alabama
Erik & Robin Hill, Jetta Whittaker, and Marty Freeman, Presenters

Sunday Worship

Live at AUUF & and on Zoom
11:00 am March 10, 2024

In Their Footsteps: Stories from the Living Legacy Project civil rights pilgrimage to Alabama.

In November 2023, Erik & Robin Hill, Jetta Whittaker, and Marty Freeman participated in the Living Legacy Project pilgrimage to civil rights sites in Alabama. Come hear their perspectives on an inspiring trip.

[Click here to join on Zoom.](#)

Pledge Drive Wrap-Up

by Peggy Robinson, Stewardship Chair

Thank you to all of you who responded to our request for pledges to fund AUUF's programs and services for the coming fiscal year! Added to those are the ones who rolled over their pledges from this current year, we have slightly over \$310,500 in pledges. That amount is from 129 donors/donor families. That is an average of \$2407, with pledges ranging from \$120 to \$18,000 for the year. Regardless of the size of your pledge, we all are ...



Although the pledge drive is finished, you are welcome to communicate any changes to your pledge or begin one by contacting the office, either by email or phone. If you have comments about the pledge drive itself, please send them to stewardship@anchorageuuf.org. If you have personal concerns, please contact Rev. Lise.

The Finance Committee is meeting next Tuesday to make recommendations to the Board for the FY25 budget. It will be partially based on this amount and what additional pledges we think will be made into the coming year. The board-approved budget, along with other Annual Meeting materials, will be sent to all members by April 5. There will be some budget discussion gatherings scheduled later in April to answer your questions and receive comment before the Annual Meeting on May 5th.

Congregational Survey is Live!

The 2024 AUUF congregational survey is now available, and we need YOUR input. Whether you are a member or friend of the Fellowship, we want to hear your thoughts about AUUF – how are we doing? What could we do better?

The survey takes just 10-20 minutes to fill out online at the link below. If you misplace the link, it is also available on our website.

If you'd rather do this on a hard copy, paper copies will be available at the Fellowship during the Forum, Worship Service, and RE, and will be mailed out, as well.

Please get your responses in by March 29!

THANK YOU!

The Survey Team and Board

[Click here to take the survey.](#)

AUUF Job Description: Congregational Administrator

Now Accepting Applications!

Do you know someone who is organized and detail-oriented, has great customer service skills, and you think would fit in well with our congregation? We are now accepting applications for the Congregational Administrator position. It is approximately 20 hours per week, mainly in the office during the day, and performs a wide variety of administrative tasks with minimal guidance.

Click on the job description link for full information about the position.

To apply:

1. Read more about us on our website and our national organization's website, uua.org.
2. Submit a resume and a cover letter describing why you want to work for AUUF in this position and how you meet the listed qualifications.
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March 2024 HALF PORTION FOR SOCIAL ACTION:

**MARCH 2024 HALF PORTION FOR SOCIAL ACTIONS
CITIZENS' CLIMATE EDUCATION**

Dennis Arashiro

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*diverse beliefs,
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Today At Our Fellowship
Thursday, March 14, 2024

This Weekend @ AUUF
Find Zoom [links here.](#)

Thursday 3/14/24

6:30 pm Choir Rehearsal

Friday 3/15/24

9:15 am-11:15 am Music Together

Mountain Song

12:00-2:00 pm Freethinkers at AUUF
only

Saturday 3/16/24

8:30-10:30 am AA Slap Happy Group

Sunday 3/17/24

9:00 am The Forum IN-PERSON & on
Zoom

11:00 am Sunday Worship IN-
PERSON & on Zoom

12:30 pm Finding Your Way to
Fellowship

4:00 pm Anchorage Friends Meeting

Monday 3/18/24

4:00-6:00 pm Private Rental

6:30 pm Fireweed Sangha of Mindful

Living- Private Rental Visitors welcome

Tuesday 3/19/24

5:30 pm Jerry's Group

6:00 pm Community Connections

Wednesday 3/20/24

Thursday 3/21/24

6:30 pm Board of Directors Meeting

6:30 pm Choir Rehearsal

Half Portion Recipient for March
[CITIZENS' CLIMATE EDUCATION](#)



The Forum Live at AUUF & on Zoom
9:00 am Sunday, March 17, 2024
Celebrating Women of Renown
Dr. Gretchen Bersch

The Forum

Live at AUUF & on Zoom
9:00 am March 17, 2024

[Click here for the Speaker's bio.](#)

[Click here to join on Zoom.](#)



Sunday Worship



Sunday Worship Live at AUUF & on Zoom
11:00 am Sunday, March 17, 2024

Sunday Worship

Live at AUUF & and on Zoom
11:00 am March 17, 2024

Creating the Unitarian National Conference in the 1860s
Rev. Lise Adams Sherry; Cassie Thomas, Worship Associate

[Click here to join on Zoom.](#)

High School Lock-in/Sleepover

March 23-24, 6 pm

As our last lock-in was cancelled due to COVID making the rounds, we're trying again. All UU high school youth, 9th-12th grades, are welcome to come for the lock-in or just the evening if that works better for your schedule.

Don't forget your sleeping bag, toothbrush, snacks, and food to share for breakfast. We'll probably have pizza for dinner.

Questions? Ask Jim Kerr at jimthejuggler@gmail.com

Stewardship Update

by Peggy Robinson, Stewardship Chair

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The AUUF 2024 Congregational Survey

Inquiring AUUF minds want to know:

AUUF's Mission Statement: *AUUF is a Fellowship of diverse people who come together to nurture each other, to grow ethically, spiritually, and intellectually, and to help create a just, safe, and caring community.*

BACKGROUND Why do a survey? The last five years have brought big changes to the lives of AUUF members and friends. As the Fellowship moves forward, we need to understand how this period has affected your relationship to AUUF. What do you value at AUUF? What do you wish for here? What do we do well and what could we do even better? Are we fulfilling our mission?

Who is organizing it? With the support of the Board and Rev. Lise, a team of Joel Cladouhos, Kalen Saxton, Yolanda Meza, and Marty Freeman drafted survey questions and reviewed them with the Program Council, Board, and minister.

How will it be conducted? We pledge to make this process transparent, honest, and compassionate, and we seek responses of the same character. The survey will be distributed on-line and in hard copies. We will share a summary of input with the congregation, and give more detailed input to the Board and minister and to the committees and teams for activities addressed in the comments. The summary will not identify participants, and we will not identify individual participants to committees and teams unless OK'd by those participants.

When will it take place? The survey will be available **March 8-29**. We are deeply grateful for your participation in this survey.

In fellowship,

Joel Cladouhos, Kalen Saxton, Yolanda Meza, Marty Freeman, Don Antrobus, Reverend Lise Adams Sherry

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March 2024 HALF PORTION FOR SOCIAL ACTION:

MARCH 2024 HALF PORTION FOR SOCIAL ACTIONS CITIZENS' CLIMATE EDUCATION

Dennis Arashiro

"Do what you can, with what you have, where you are." - Teddy Roosevelt

Earth Hour: 8:30 PM local time throughout the world, Saturday, March 23, 2024. Originating in 2007 with the World Wildlife Fund, Earth Hour is an annual event to turn off non-essential electric lights for a single hour. A single small step that is both a symbolic gesture to address climate change and an action with positive tangible results. Research indicates 274 instances of observable reductions in electrical consumption, to the tune of an overall 4 percent change. An hour of hope to fight the despair that can come when facing a global threat. To align ourselves with this positive step, we have designated Citizens' Climate Change Education as the recipient of the March 2024 Half Portion for Social Action.

Citizens' Climate Education (CCE) is a nonpartisan grassroots advocacy organization that empowers people from diverse backgrounds to educate key stakeholders, policymakers and the general public about effective solutions to climate change. Alongside its sister organization, Citizens' Climate Lobby, the CCE works to build political will for impactful climate solutions. For the entire month of April, half our Sunday collections will go to this cause.

You can contribute in person at our Sunday services or online by clicking the following link:

**Go to anchorageuuf.org
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 Tu 11-3; W and F 10-2, and by appointment

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Dan Norton: AV Coordinator

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av@anchorageuuf.org

Director of Religious Exploration,

Vacant, Please see our job description on AUUF [website](http://www.anchorageuuf.org) for more information.

Connections@AnchorageUUF.org

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

Connect with us



Visit our website

AUUF Podcast

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ANCHORAGE
UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST
FELLOWSHIP
*diverse beliefs,
common purpose.*

Today At Our Fellowship
Thursday, March 21, 2024

This Weekend @ AUUF
Find Zoom [links here.](#)

Thursday 3/21/24

6:30 pm Board of Directors Meeting
6:30 pm Choir Rehearsal

Friday 3/22/24

12:00-2:00 pm Freethinkers at AUUF
only

Saturday 3/23/24

8:30-10:30 am AA Slap Happy Group
1-3:00 pm Private Rental
5:00 pm High School Lock-in starts
6:00 pm Private Rental

Sunday 3/24/24

High School Lock-in continues

9:00 am The Forum ONLY on Zoom

**11:00 am Sunday Worship IN-
PERSON & on Zoom**

12:15 pm 4th Sunday Potluck
12:15 pm Finding Your Way to
Fellowship

4:00 pm Anchorage Friends Meeting

Monday 3/25/24

4:00-6:00 pm Private Rental
6:30 pm Fireweed Sangha of Mindful
Living- Private Rental Visitors welcome

Tuesday 3/26/24

6:00 pm Community Connections

Wednesday 3/27/24

Thursday 3/28/24

5:30 pm Anti-Racism Team
6:30 pm Choir Rehearsal

Half Portion Recipient for March
[CITIZENS' CLIMATE EDUCATION](#)



The Forum ONLY on Zoom

9:00 am Sunday, March 24, 2024

Anchorage <> Mat-Su Commuter Rail?

Cynthia Wentworth, LaMarr Anderson, Andrea Feniger, Joel Cladouhos
Alaska Commuter Rail Coalition

The Forum

Only on Zoom

9:00 am March 24, 2024

[Click here for the Speaker's bio.](#)

[Click here to join on Zoom.](#)



Sunday Worship Live at AUUF & on Zoom

11:00 am Sunday, March 24, 2024

Anointed by Peace

Rev. Lennox Benjamin Fisher

Sunday Worship

Live at AUUF & and on Zoom

11:00 am March 24, 2024

Rev Lennox Benjamin Fisher is an ordained Congregational minister in the NACCC denomination. He is currently completing his M.Div. degree from Luther Seminary in St. Paul, Minnesota. Rev Lennox resides in Michigan's southwest between the St Joseph River and Lake Michigan. He serves as Executive Director of the nonprofit Luvability which facilitates spiritual community for adults with developmental disabilities.

In his message "Anointed for Peace", Rev. Lennox reflects on the cultural and historical

framework of the Hebrew and Greek words *mashiah* and *khristos* as they relate to the life of Jesus of Nazareth. Drawing from other world religions and cultures, he frames the language of anointing in the ideal of peace, both among fellow humans and with the Divine. Rev Lennox employs the lectionary texts of Palm Sunday to present a primary vision of Jesus as the mystic anointed for a peace that is both contemplative and tangible, and most importantly, an example to follow. Peace and action.

[Click here to join on Zoom.](#)



Potluck This Sunday! Bring food AND your own plate/utensils

Get connected at our potluck lunch at AUUF after the 11 am service this Sunday. To minimize cleanup (and impact on our planet), we ask that you please bring and take home your own plates, forks, etc. This event is sponsored by the Connections Team, and is in lieu of our "5th Sunday" potluck due to it falling on Easter. See you there!

High School Lock-in/Sleepover

March 23-24, 6 pm

As our last lock-in was cancelled due to COVID making the rounds, we're trying again. All UU high school youth, 9th-12th grades, are welcome to come for the lock-in or just the evening if that works better for your schedule.

Don't forget your sleeping bag, toothbrush, snacks, and food to share for breakfast. We'll probably have pizza for dinner.

Questions? Ask Jim Kerr at jimthejuggler@gmail.com

Congregational Administrator Schedule

For the Upcoming Weeks – Peggy is busy with MOA Voting!

March 18-23: Office is open Monday, Wednesday afternoon, and Thursday afternoon, at various hours. Call/text to 907-248-3737x1 or send an email to admin@anchorageuuf.org, and I'll respond when I can.

March 25-30: Office closed. Leave a message as above.

April 1-5: Office closed Monday – Wednesday. Hopefully will be in Thursday and Friday.

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Inquiring AUUF minds want to know:

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In fellowship,

Joël Cladouhos, Kalen Saxton, Yolanda Meza, Marty Freeman, Don Antrobus, Reverend Lise Adams Sherry

The 2024 AUUF Survey Needs YOU

Deadline extended March 31st

Survey responses are rolling in, but we still need to hear from many of you. A lot has happened at AUUF, in our families, and in our world in the last several years. The Board, staff, committees, and survey team want to understand how that has affected your engagement with AUUF, and to get your input on how we can continue to strengthen the Fellowship.

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*diverse beliefs,
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Today At Our Fellowship
Thursday, March 28, 2024

This Weekend @ AUUF
Find Zoom [links here.](#)

Thursday 3/28/24

5:30 pm Anti-Racism Team Meeting
6:30 pm Choir Rehearsal

Friday 3/29/24

9:15 am Private Rent
12:00-2:00 pm Freethinkers at AUUF
only

Saturday 3/30/24

8:30-10:30 am AA Slap Happy Group
10:30 am Private Rental

Sunday 3/31/24
Easter Sunday

9:00 am The Forum Zoom Only

11:00 am Sunday Worship IN-
PERSON & on Zoom

4:00 pm Anchorage Friends Meeting

Monday 4/1/24

4:00-6:00 pm Private Rental
6:30 pm Fireweed Sangha of Mindful
Living- Private Rental Visitors welcome

Tuesday 4/2/24

MOA Election Day

4:30 pm Forum Planning Meeting
6:00 pm Community Connections

Wednesday 4/3/24

5:00 pm Connections Team Meeting
7:00 pm Building & Grounds Meeting

Thursday 4/4/24

6:30 pm Choir Rehearsal

Half Portion Recipient for 5th Sunday
[PILOT](#)



The Forum ONLY on Zoom
9:00 am Sunday, March 31, 2024
A Conversation with U.S. Representative Mary Peltola
U.S. Representative Mary Peltola

The Forum Zoom Only

9:00 am March 31, 2024

US Rep. Mary Peltola Will Speak at This Sunday's Zoomed Forum

It's finally happening. We are very happy that Mary Peltola, Congresswoman for all of Alaska, will be our Forum speaker this Sunday, March 31, at 9 a.m. by Zoom. It will be Zoom only, as she will be in Alaska but in Juneau that day. And you can join our Zoom the usual way, with no preregistration requirement. It's taken a bit to reschedule after unexpected events kept us from doing this at the end of last year as expected, but all of us—including members and friends of the Fellowship and Rep. Peltola—are eagerly anticipating this return engagement. And if you had to miss any of our other Forums in March, we had four good ones. You can listen to a recording of any of them by going to our AUUF Podcasts (easy access using the "Podcast Archives" button at the bottom of the green box front and center on the Fellowship's home page: anchorageuuf.org). On March 3 we heard from Bill Popp, the last of the mayoral candidates who joined us (others can be found by scrolling back to February podcasts). On March 10, our speaker was Robert Churchill, talking with us about living conditions, reentry challenges, and civil liberties of Alaska's prisoners. On March 17, we celebrated Women's History Month with Dr. Gretchen Bersch. And on March 24, we had an informative presentation and discussion with four members of the Alaska Commuter Rail Coalition, Cynthia Wentworth, LaMarr Anderson, Andrea Feniger, and Joel Cladouhos.

[Click here for the Speaker's bio.](#)

[Click here to join on Zoom.](#)



Sunday Worship Live at AUUF & on Zoom
11:00 am Sunday, March 31, 2024
The Magical Transformation of Spring
Rev Lise Sherry & Lauren Rench

Sunday Worship

Live at AUUF & and on Zoom
11:00 am March 31, 2024

[Click here to join on Zoom.](#)

Spring Equinox Women's* Retreat April 12, 5:30 pm-8:30 pm and April 13, 9 am - 5 pm.

Welcome to a nurturing weekend for * people who identify as women at our fellowship. Teens 15 years and up are welcome to attend. We will use ritual, song, drumming, dance, art and play to enrich our experience! Come join the conversation and enjoy reacquainting with old friendships and finding new.

Some things you might want to bring to this event include:

- comfortable clothing
- outdoor gear if you plan to choose a nature walk
- an item you can place on an altar that evokes your feelings about being a woman/being you, or something that celebrates spring
- a drum(s) if you have one
- a journal, water bottle, seating pillow for your comfort
- whatever else you think you might need or want to share.

The cost for those 20-80 years old is a suggested donation of \$20-\$35. Others are free, but if cost is a concern, please contact Rev. Lise. Registration forms are by the Gratitude Tree at the Fellowship and will be on our website soon. The deadline to turn yours in is April 7. For more questions, contact Katherine Huffman.

Small Group Ministry This Spring

Rev. Lise is offering a shorter "taster" experience of small group ministry in April and May for newer members and friends (oldies are welcome, too). We will meet about four times on either Wednesdays, Thursdays, or Fridays. During this time we will practice deep listening with one another as we discuss topics on our hearts and minds. Small Group Ministry is a way we can make deeper connections (in groups of about six to twelve people) through shared laughter and sorrow as we wrestle with all that is happening in our lives. If you have questions, or would like to participate, please email Rev. Lise (RevLise@AnchorageUUF.org) as soon as possible with your day preference as the group will begin the second week in April.

Thank You! Last Chance!

First, on behalf of the Board and the Survey Team, thank you to the 80+ people who have already responded to the AUUF Congregational Survey. We are grateful for your time and insights.

Second, it's not too late! You can still contribute your ideas, concerns, and wishes for AUUF by March 31. What is your perspective on AUUF in 2024? Love Zoom? Hate Zoom? Miss some event we used to have? Have a cool idea to try in the future? Maybe a topic you'd like to ponder at the 11:00 service or a speaker for the Forum? This survey will just take 10-20 minutes and we will report on the survey results at the May 6 annual meeting. Here are ways you can participate:

- Fill out and submit a survey online at the link below or at the link on the homepage at www.anchorageuuf.org. [Or click here.](#)
- Pick up a hard copy at the Fellowship – there are copies on the table in the Fellowship foyer next to the Joys & Sorrows book. They can be returned in the big manila envelope on the bulletin board in the office.
- If you need a copy mailed to you, please contact me. You can mail it back to: Administrator, AUUF, 2824 E. 18th Ave., Anchorage, 99508 or drop it in the manila envelope on the bulletin board in the office.

Your feedback is a gift to the congregation – thank you!
Marty Freeman, martyw@ak.net

A Message from your Endowment Fund Committee, and Informational Luncheon on April 14

The Endowment Fund Committee will be hosting a light luncheon on April 14 at 12:30 in the Social Room for people interested in the latest and greatest information about the AUUF Endowment Fund. An RSVP to Carol Harris at clh@gci.net or 907-750-1401 would be appreciated but not required to attend.

What is the AUUF Endowment Fund? As part of a multi-faceted financially mature financial plan, AUUF has created an Endowment Fund. The idea is that one-time gifts are contributed and the total value grows until it reaches the goal of \$500K (in fiscal year 2022 value), at which point it can be used up to 4% (\$20K in fiscal year 2022 dollars) per year for one-time expenses related to AUUF that are not in the Annual Budget. The list of possible uses is very long and would be approved by the AUUF Board. Donations can be cash, through a Will, as a beneficiary of insurance/retirement, and can include assets such as stocks. Your individual Financial Advisor would have to advise you for your specifics. Please consider AUUF in your financial planning!

Greeter Training Session Sunday April 7

Come learn what's entailed in being a greeter on Sunday morning, and why this important volunteer task is vital to the health of our Fellowship! We will meet in the sanctuary 10-15 minutes after the 11 am Worship Service, whenever it concludes. This will allow time for

No More Deaths

Christians for Equality is hosting a Memorial Vigil for our houseless neighbors who have died this year. We hope you can join us at this ceremony at First United Methodist, 725 W. Ninth Ave., 1 pm, Saturday, March 30, 2024.

As we know, finding housing is a challenge in Anchorage. Many of our neighbors are priced out or face other challenges (mental and physical illnesses, addictions) that prevent them from having a reliable or high enough income to gain housing. Our congregation has helped some of these folks through our witnessing and hosting of the Family Emergency Cold Weather Shelter for the last two years. Unfortunately, this emergency cold weather shelter does not offer enough shelter for all those in need and many face the ultimate price by dying because of exposure to cold weather or other unsafe circumstances. Please join us as we remember them on Saturday. For more information on how you can help please go to [ACEH](#)

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Serving Alaskans since 1978, Standing Together Against Rape (STAR) is a non-profit organization based in Anchorage. STAR's mission is to prevent sexual trauma and provide comprehensive, collaborative crisis intervention, advocacy, and support to victims/survivors, their families, and our communities, with the long-term goal of ending sexual violence in Alaska.

STAR's Prevention & Education team provides age-appropriate, educational workshops in schools, workplaces, and community groups to empower individuals with knowledge and tools to prevent sexual assault. Various topics are covered such as Sexual Assault and Consent, Child Abuse Awareness and Prevention, Healthy Relationships, LGBTQ2+ Competency, Advocacy 101, Internet Safety, Bystander Intervention, Mandated Reporting, and Vicarious Trauma and Wellness. STAR presentations can be tailored to meet the needs of just about any organization.

With the supportive guidance of a STAR Direct Services Advocate, survivors receive emotional support, trauma-informed care, referrals, access to local resources, trauma therapy, and assistance in navigating the legal system. STAR recognizes that each survivor's needs are unique, and we tailor our services accordingly. All STAR services for Survivors are free of charge, and the STAR Crisis Line is free, confidential, and available 24/7.

In Anchorage: (907) 276-7273 or
Toll-Free Statewide (800) 478-8999

The needs of our clients vary depending on the individual, but we often accept donations of new clothing, underwear, shoes, and winter gear, because these items are often surrendered by the client for evidence collection.

This April, during Sexual Assault Awareness Month, we are encouraging our community to get involved however possible. Your volunteer efforts and donations can make a significant impact in helping survivors and preventing sexual violence. By standing together, we can create a safer and more compassionate world for all.

Learn more about STAR's programs and services at www.staralaska.com.

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Music@anchorageuuf.org

Dan Norton: AV Coordinator

907-248-3737 x5,

AVCoordinator@anchorageuuf.org

Director of Religious Exploration,

Vacant, Please see our job description on AUUF [website](#) for more information.

Connections@AnchorageUUF.org

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

Connect with us



Visit our website

AUUF Podcast

Donate



ANCHORAGE
UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST
FELLOWSHIP
*diverse beliefs,
common purpose.*

Today At Our Fellowship Thursday, April 4, 2024

This Weekend @ AUUF Find Zoom [links here.](#)

Thursday 4/4/24

6:30 pm Choir Rehearsal

Friday 4/5/24

9:15 am Private Rental

12:00-2:00 pm Freethinkers at AUUF only

Saturday 4/6/24

8:30-10:30 am AA Slap Happy Group

10:30 am Private Rental

1:00-3:00 pm Private Rental

6:00 pm Alaska Goddess Network

Sunday 4/7/24

9:00 am The Forum IN- PERSON & on Zoom

11:00 am Sunday Worship IN- PERSON & on Zoom

12:15 pm Greeter Training

4:00 pm Anchorage Friends Meeting

Monday 4/8/24

4:00-6:00 pm Private Rental

6:30 pm Fireweed Sangha of Mindful

Living- Private Rental Visitors welcome

Tuesday 4/9/24

2:00 pm Hungry Book Club

6:00 pm Community Connections

Wednesday 4/10/24

6:00 pm Safer Congregation Team

Thursday 4/11/24

5:30 pm CYRE Team Meeting

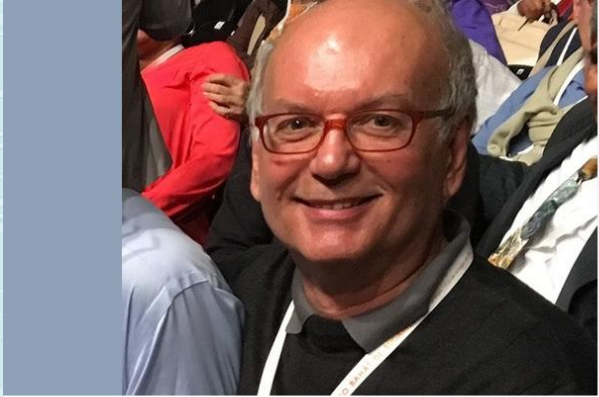
6:30 pm Choir Rehearsal

Half Portion for April

[STAR](#)

Greeter Training Session Sunday April 7

Come learn what's entailed in being a greeter on Sunday morning, and why this important volunteer task is vital to the health of our Fellowship! We will meet in the sanctuary 10-15 minutes after the 11 am Worship Service, whenever it concludes. This will allow time for coffee and socializing after the service, before our meeting. Snacks will be provided. If you have questions, please contact connections@anchorageuuf.org



The Forum IN PERSON & on Zoom

9:00 am Sunday, April 7, 2024

Bahá'ís' Struggle for Gender Equality, Justice, and Religious Freedom in Iran with Daniel Lord, Nava Sarracino

The Forum

Live at AUUF & and on Zoom

9:00 am April 7, 2024

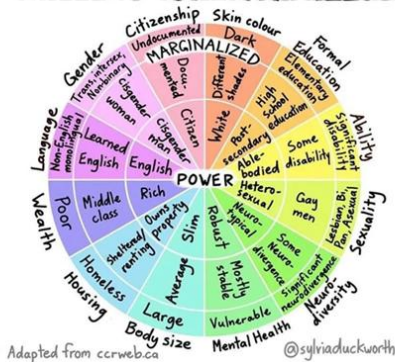
Speaker Bios

Daniel Lord earned his undergraduate degree at UC Santa Cruz, during which time he also studied acting at UC Berkeley. He holds master's degrees in education and psychology and a Ph.D. in educational psychology from the University of Michigan. After working as a licensed mental health professional, he pursued studies in the law and human rights at the University of Iowa, and while there he participated in the Iowa Playwrights Workshop. He retired as a psychology professor at University of Alaska but continues to be an affiliated global faculty member with the Bahá'í Institute of Higher Education in Iran. Close to a second retirement, he currently works as an attorney-public advocate in Anchorage and is a member of the American Bar Association's International Law Section.

Nava Sarracino was born to American and Iranian Bahá'í parents. She grew up in South Africa, where she earned her Master's in Sustainable Development. She moved to Anchorage 15 years ago and has worked in a birth center, and as a medical biller. But she sees her calling in life as a theatre practitioner and story-teller, and believes deeply in the power of the arts to be a great educational tool. While working as a project manager in rural Alaska, she brought theatre and story-telling into the local school, and she has performed in communities throughout the world. Her latest story-telling event was at the Halifax Fringe Festival in Canada and most recent stage performance in Anchorage was in RKP's production, "Lifespan of a Fact." In her latest theatre project she hopes to bring awareness to the plight of the Bahá'ís in Iran by sharing the story of 14 individuals who were killed in Iran 40 years ago for their faith.

[Click here to join on Zoom.](#)

WHEEL OF POWER/PRIVILEGE



Sunday Worship IN PERSON & on Zoom 11:00 am Sunday, April 7, 2024
Unpacking Privilege
The Anti- Racism Team

Sunday Worship

Live at AUUF & and on Zoom
11:00 am April 7, 2024

[Click here to join on Zoom.](#)

Sign up for Hospitality duty at AUUF

Lots of slots open for Sunday morning greeters, zoom ushers and social hour hosts for the month of April at AUUF. Please consider helping so we continue to be a warm and welcoming congregation! We appreciate those who continuously help out. Questions? Contact connections@anchorageuuf.org

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AUUF Job Description: Congregational

Administrator

Now Accepting Applications!

Do you know someone who is organized and detail-oriented, has great customer service skills, and you think would fit in well with our congregation? We are now accepting applications for the Congregational Administrator position. It is approximately 20 hours per week, mainly in the office during the day, and performs a wide variety of administrative tasks with minimal guidance.

Click on the job description link for full information about the position.

To apply:

1. Read more about us on our website and our national organization's website, uua.org.
2. Submit a resume and a cover letter describing why you want to work for AUUF in this position and how you meet the listed qualifications.
3. Email both to RevLise@anchorageuuf.org. Put "Administrator" in the subject line. Applications will be reviewed upon receipt. The position is open until filled. References will be checked and a background check performed.

See AUUF [Job descriptions](#), now accepting applications, congregational members are eligible to apply.

DRE Job opening

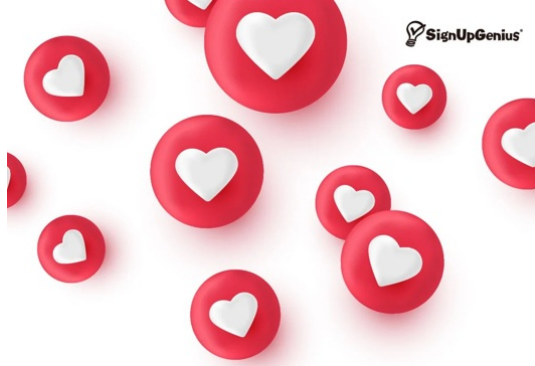
Title: Director of Religious Exploration

Do you know someone who is welcoming, creative, enjoys children, loves to learn, collaborate and is organized? If you think they'd add positive elements to our congregational culture, please tell them about our Director of Religious Exploration position! This position is full-time with the ability to work in the office and at home, although working on Sundays and some evenings is required. We've recently increased the salary rate to make the position more competitive and interested parties may apply by following the below steps.

To Apply:

1. Explore our website, anchorageuuf.org, see [full job description](#), and our national organization's website, www.uua.org.
2. Submit a cover letter describing why you want to work for Anchorage Unitarian Universalist Fellowship in this position and how you meet the listed qualifications.
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**THANK YOU
VOLUNTEERS**

As you grow older,
you will discover that
you have 2 hands
one for helping yourself,
the other for helping others



April is Volunteer Recognition Month!

Big thanks to all the volunteers that make AUUF a special place!

April 2024 HALF PORTION FOR SOCIAL ACTION:

Serving Alaskans since 1978, Standing Together Against Rape (STAR) is a non-profit organization based in Anchorage. STAR's mission is to prevent sexual trauma and provide comprehensive, collaborative crisis intervention, advocacy, and support to victims/survivors, their families, and our communities, with the long-term goal of ending sexual violence in Alaska.

STAR's Prevention & Education team provides age-appropriate, educational workshops in schools, workplaces, and community groups to empower individuals with knowledge and tools to prevent sexual assault. Various topics are covered such as Sexual Assault and Consent, Child Abuse Awareness and Prevention, Healthy Relationships, LGBTQ2+ Competency, Advocacy 101, Internet Safety, Bystander Intervention, Mandated Reporting, and Vicarious Trauma and Wellness. STAR presentations can be tailored to meet the needs of just about any organization.

With the supportive guidance of a STAR Direct Services Advocate, survivors receive emotional support, trauma-informed care, referrals, access to local resources, trauma therapy, and assistance in navigating the legal system. STAR recognizes that each survivor's needs are unique, and we tailor our services accordingly. All STAR services for Survivors are free of charge, and the STAR Crisis Line is free, confidential, and available 24/7.

In Anchorage: (907) 276-7273 or
Toll-Free Statewide (800) 478-8999

The needs of our clients vary depending on the individual, but we often accept donations of new clothing, underwear, shoes, and winter gear, because these items are often surrendered by the client for evidence collection.

This April, during Sexual Assault Awareness Month, we are encouraging our community to get involved however possible. Your volunteer efforts and donations can make a significant impact in helping survivors and preventing sexual violence. By standing together, we can create a safer and more compassionate world for all.

Learn more about STAR's programs and services at www.staralaska.com.

Go to anchorageuuf.org

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 Tu 11-3; W and F 10-2, and by appointment

Congregational Administrator, 907-248-3737 x1
Admin@anchorageUUF.org AUUF
Usually Monday - Thursday 10-2, plus additional hours. Please call before coming.

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

Esme Danner (she/her) Music Director
907-248-3737 x4
Music@anchorageuuf.org

Dan Norton: AV Coordinator

907-248-3737 x5,
AVCoordinator@anchorageuuf.org

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*diverse beliefs,
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Today At Our Fellowship
Thursday, April 11, 2024

This Weekend @ AUUF
Find Zoom [links here.](#)

Thursday 4/11/24

6:30 pm Choir Rehearsal

Friday 4/12/24

9:15 am Private Rental

12:00-2:00 pm Freethinkers at AUUF
only

5:30-8:30 pm Women's Retreat

Saturday 4/13/24

9-5:00 pm Women's Retreat

8:30-10:30 am AA Slap Happy Group

Sunday 4/14/24

9:00 am The Forum Zoom only

11:00 am Sunday Worship IN-
PERSON & on Zoom

12:30 pm Endowment Fund Lunch

1:30 pm Worship Associate Meeting

4:00 pm Anchorage Friends Meeting

Monday 4/15/24

4:00-6:00 pm Private Rental

6:30 pm Fireweed Sangha of Mindful

Living- Private Rental Visitors welcome

Tuesday 4/16/24

5:30 pm Jerry's Group

5:30 pm Finance Committee Meeting

6:00 pm Community Connections

Wednesday 4/17/24

Thursday 4/18/24

6:30 pm Board of Directors Meeting

6:30 pm Choir Rehearsal

Half Portion for April

[STAR](#)

Save the Date! Annual Meeting May 5!

Our AUUF Annual Meeting is on Sunday, May 5, at 10am, with registration and breakfast snacks beginning at 9:30. If you are a member, you should have received your packet in your email last week. If you did not get one or would like a hardcopy, please contact Peggy in the office and she will send one to you. There are also some copies available on the table box in the social room.



Virtual Forum only on Zoom 9:00 am Sunday, April 14, 2024

Sketching Alaska's Environment

Max Romey

The Forum Zoom only

9:00 am April 14, 2024

[Click here to join on Zoom.](#)

April at the Forum

Hello, Spring! April brings four new Forum programs. We are continuing to meet **in-person on the first and third Sundays** of each month. And, we continue to make the Forum available by **Zoom every Sunday** for those who can't make it to the building, but **we encourage folks to show up at the Fellowship for the in-person Forums if you can.** It's great to see one another "in 3-D." It helps rebuild our sense of community that took a big hit during Covid, and it's a lot nicer for speakers who take their Sunday mornings to join us in the building to look out and see people in the chairs, however nice it is to know so many of you are with us from the warmth of your Zoom boxes. However you join us, though, we're happy to be together each Sunday.

Last Sunday, **April 7, Daniel Lord and Nava Bastani Sarracino** gave us a window onto something most of us knew little about—the **Bahá'ís' Struggle for Gender Equality, Justice, and Religious Freedom in Iran**. If you were unable to catch it live, you can hear it—along with recordings of our other Forums—as **podcasts** (thank you, Ken Winterberger) by using the Podcast Archives button at the bottom of the green box front and center at the top of the AUUF Home Page (anchorageuuf.org).

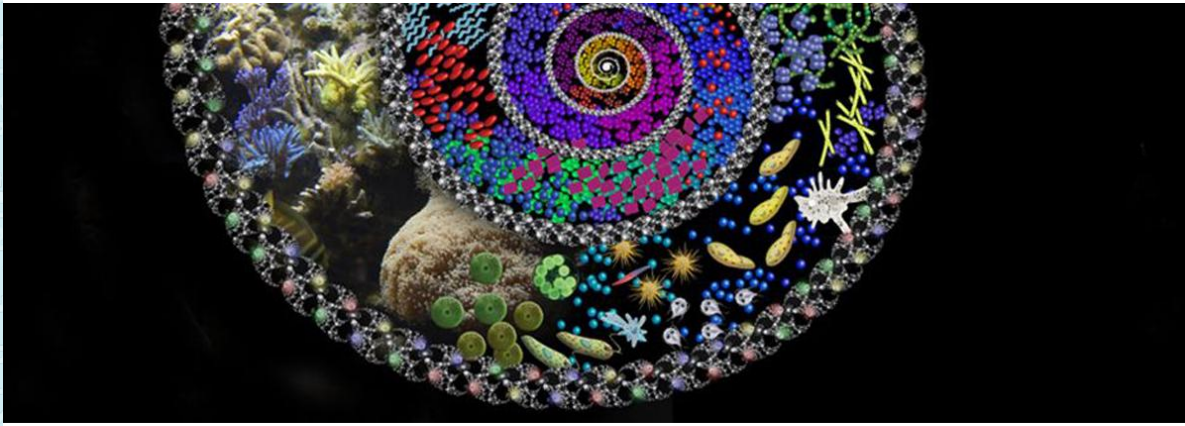
On **Sunday, April 14**, we will gather on **Zoom-only**, as we do on the **second and fourth Sundays** of each month to enjoy a presentation by **Max Romey**, a **watercolor artist, filmmaker**, environmentalist, dyslexic, and educator. The title of his talk is **"Sketching Our Alaska Environment,"** and it should be both entertaining and informative.

The following Sunday, **April 21**, we'll be back in the building in-person at our Fellowship, as well as on Zoom, to hear from APU Professor **Dr. Roman Dial** about the **effects of climate change on our boreal and Arctic ecosystems**. He'll be sharing some interesting findings from studying the advancing treeline and other observations from field work in the Brooks Range. We hope you'll be able to join us in person, but if not you can still catch it on Zoom.

As a reminder, **childcare** is being provided **during the in-person Forums**. Finally, on the last Sunday of the month, **April 28**, we'll celebrate National **Poetry Month** in our **Zoom Forum** with **readings from a number of poets** joining us from near and far.

As always, we encourage you to send your **ideas for either programs or specific speakers** to the Forum Committee Chair John McKay at mckay@alaska.net, or pass

them along to other Forum Committee members: Dennis Arashiro, James Dryden, Heather Flynn, Lynn Hallquist, and Rev. Lise Adams Sherry.



Sunday Worship in-person & on Zoom 11:00 am Sunday, April 14, 2024

Interconnected, Interdependent

Rev. Lise Adams Sherry; Renee Frost, Worship Associate

Sunday Worship

Live at AUUF & and on Zoom

11:00 am April 14, 2024

[Click here to join on Zoom.](#)

This month, the theme of our Sunday worship is Interdependence. It's fitting because as religious and spiritual people, we recognize the myriad of ways we are connected to and depend on one another. As caring people, what are we called to do with this knowledge?

April 14, 2024, In-person and Zoom

Interconnected, Interdependent

Rev. Lise Adams Sherry; Renee Frost, Worship Associate

One of the main things that defines us as humans, is our connection to others. Yet so often we get caught up in our individuality and independence. This is a false reality however as we need one another to thrive and survive. By helping others we help ourselves. How can we go beyond this thought to action?

April 21, 2024, In-person and Zoom

Multigenerational Earth Day Service

Maribeth Snell, Green Sanctuary Team

We will have a brief gathering of reading and song followed by a series of activities we can do together to ponder the importance of our planet and show we care (planting seeds, writing to legislators, drawing our favorite things about our planet to give to inmates, and more). All ages are encouraged to learn, play and worship together. Electronic cycling will be available.

April 28, 2024, In-person and Zoom

High School Bridging Service

Rev. Lise Adams Sherry; Joyce Laine, Worship Associate

Our congregation accompanies our children in their spiritual and religious exploration from their earliest months until they are ready to explore the world on their own, whether through continuing their education, joining the workforce or taking some time to travel--both through introspection and in the wider world. With our Bridging Ceremony we celebrate our graduating seniors and assure them they are loved and worthy once again.

Rev. Lise Out of Office

Rev. Lise will be out of town April 15-21 to attend a minister's meeting in the Seattle area and to spend some time with friends. If you have a pastoral concern please reach out to Peggy at the office (907.248-3737) and she'll connect you with a Caring Connection member or Rev. Lise. Thank you!

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Everyone Welcome! Games Night at AUUF April 19

The Connections Team is hosting a Games Night for all ages on Friday, April 19, 7-9 p.m. in the Social Room. A variety of game boards or other social games will be offered, but you're welcome to

bring a favorite if you have one. What a great way to connect with other adults and families in our Fellowship! There's no charge to participate, but do consider bringing a snack or non-alcoholic beverage to share. For more information contact connections@anchorageuuf.org

Earth Day April 21 10:30 am-2:30 pm Electronic Recycling Day

We are partnering with Total Reclaim of Anchorage to provide drop off containers for recycling at the fellowship. The Collection containers will be on the west side parking lot. The cost to you is \$0.25 per pound. This will be on the honor system but we will take any amount you wish to donate.

Items:

All types of electronics, appliances, cords, phones & computers
TV monitor and printers will cost you \$25 each item.
Batteries
Light bulbs, fluorescent lights ballasts
vacuums with bags emptied

Electronics Recycling is our annual Spring Fundraiser event which is planned by the AUUF Green Sanctuary Committee. We are committed to support the mission & values of AUUF. Our intent is to prevent harmful electronics, batteries and other recyclable waste getting into our landfill.

AUUF Seder

Saturday, April 27, from 6 to 8 p.m.
It's time for a seder, UU-style

As most of you know, a seder is the ritual meal that Jewish families prepare for the first night of Passover. There is a collective telling of the story of Passover, then a shared meal. We have a tradition of celebrating the holiday with UU twists. Even for religious Jews, the seder is a story of liberation and religious freedom. It is also a time of committing to work for others who still suffer without that freedom. Our seder emphasizes those themes.

[Click here to read more.](#)

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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 Tu 11-3; W and F 10-2, and by appointment

Congregational Administrator, 907-248-3737 x1
Admin@anchorageUUF.org AUUF
Usually Monday - Thursday 10-2, plus additional hours. Please call before coming.

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

Esme Danner (she/her) Music Director
907-248-3737 x4
Music@anchorageuuf.org

Dan Norton: AV Coordinator
907-248-3737 x5,
AVCoordinator@anchorageuuf.org

Director of Religious Exploration,
Vacant, Please see our job description on AUUF [website](#) for more information.

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

Connect with us



[Visit our website](#)

[AUUF Podcast](#)

[Donate](#)



ANCHORAGE
UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST
FELLOWSHIP
*diverse beliefs,
common purpose.*

Today At Our Fellowship Thursday, April 18, 2024

This Weekend @ AUUF
Find Zoom [links here.](#)

Thursday 4/18/24

6:30 pm Board of Director's Meeting
6:30 pm Choir

Friday 4/19/24

12:00 pm Freethinkers
3:00-7:00 pm Set up for Celtic Festival
7:00 pm Game Night-Join the
Connections Team - All Welcome!

Saturday 4/20/24

8:30-10:30 am AA Slap Happy Group
10:30 am- 6:00 pm Celtic Spring Festival
1:00 pm Private Lesson

Sunday 4/21/24

9:00 am The Forum IN- PERSON & on
Zoom

11:00 am Sunday Worship IN- PERSON
& on Zoom

10:30 am- 2:30 pm Electronics Recycling
Event
12:30 pm Peace Camp Counselor Info
Meeting
4:00 pm Anchorage Friends Meeting

Monday 4/22/24

4:00-6:00 pm Private Rental
6:30 pm Fireweed Sangha of Mindful
Living- Private Rental Visitors welcome

Tuesday 4/23/24

6:00 pm Program Council (In person)
6:00 pm Community Connections

Wednesday 4/24/24

Thursday 4/25/24

5:30 pm Anti-Racism Team
6:30 pm Choir Rehearsal

Half Portion for April
[STAR](#)

Save the Date! Annual Meeting May 5!



Our AUUF Annual Meeting is on Sunday, May 5, at 10am, with registration and breakfast snacks beginning at 9:30. If you are a member, you should have received your packet in your email last week. If you did not get one or would like a hardcopy, please contact Peggy in the office and she will send one to you. There are also some copies available on the table box in the social room.



The Forum In-person & on Zoom

9:00 am Sunday, April 21, 2024

Effects of Climate Change on Boreal and Arctic Ecosystems

APU Professor Dr. Roman Dial

The Forum

9:00 am April 21, 2024

[Click here to join on Zoom.](#)

April at the Forum

Hello, Spring! April brings four new Forum programs. We are continuing to meet **in-person on the first and third Sundays** of each month. And, we continue to make the Forum available by **Zoom every Sunday** for those who can't make it to the building, but **we encourage folks to show up at the Fellowship for the in-person Forums if you can.** It's great to see one another "in 3-D." It helps rebuild our sense of community that took a big hit during Covid, and it's a lot nicer for speakers who take their Sunday mornings to join us in the building to look out and see people in the chairs, however nice it is to know so many of you are with us from the warmth of your Zoom boxes. However you join us, though, we're happy to be together each Sunday.

This Sunday, **April 21**, we'll be back in the building in-person at our Fellowship, as well as on Zoom, to hear from APU Professor **Dr. Roman Dial** about the **effects of climate change on our boreal and Arctic ecosystems.** He'll be sharing some interesting findings from studying the advancing treeline and other observations from field work in the Brooks Range. We hope you'll be able to join us in person, but if not you can still catch it on Zoom.

As a reminder, **childcare** is being provided **during the in-person Forums**, Finally, on the last Sunday of the month, **April 28**, we'll celebrate National **Poetry Month** in our **Zoom Forum** with **readings from a number of poets** joining us from near and far.

As always, we encourage you to send your **ideas for either programs or specific speakers** to the Forum Committee Chair John McKay at mckay@alaska.net, or pass them along to other Forum Committee members: Dennis Arashiro, James Dryden, Heather Flynn, Lynn Hallquist, and Rev. Lise Adams Sherry.



Sunday Worship in-person & on Zoom
11:00 am Sunday, April 21, 2024
Multigenerational Earth Day Service
Maribeth Snell, Green Sanctuary Team

Sunday Worship

Live at AUUF & and on Zoom
11:00 am April 21, 2024

[Click here to join on Zoom.](#)

This month, the theme of our Sunday worship is Interdependence. It's fitting because as religious and spiritual people, we recognize the myriad of ways we are connected to and depend on one another. As caring people, what are we called to do with this knowledge?

April 21, 2024, In-person and Zoom

Multigenerational Earth Day Service
Maribeth Snell, Green Sanctuary Team

We will have a brief gathering of reading and song followed by a series of activities we can do together to ponder the importance of our planet and show we care (planting seeds, writing to legislators, drawing our favorite things about our planet to give to inmates, and more). All ages are encouraged to learn, play and worship together. Electronic cycling will be available.

April 28, 2024, In-person and Zoom

High School Bridging Service
Rev. Lise Adams Sherry; Joyce Laine, Worship Associate

Our congregation accompanies our children in their spiritual and religious exploration from their earliest months until they are ready to explore the world on their own, whether through continuing their education, joining the workforce or taking some time to travel-- both through introspection and in the wider world. With our Bridging Ceremony we celebrate our graduating seniors and assure them they are loved and worthy once again.



Everyone Welcome! Games Night at AUUF April 19

The Connections Team is hosting a Games Night for all ages on Friday, April 19, 7-9 p.m. in the Social Room. A variety of game boards or other social games will be

offered, but you're welcome to bring a favorite if you have one. What a great way to connect with other adults and families in our Fellowship! There's no charge to participate, but do consider bringing a snack or non-alcoholic beverage to share. For more information contact connections@anchorageuuf.org

Earth Day April 21

10:30 am-2:30 pm Electronic Recycling Day

We are partnering with Total Reclaim of Anchorage to provide drop off containers for recycling at the fellowship. The Collection containers will be on the west side parking lot. The cost to you is \$0.25 per pound. This will be on the honor system but we will take any amount you wish to donate.

Items:

All types of electronics, appliances, cords, phones & computers

TV monitor and printers will cost you \$25 each item.

Batteries, Light bulbs, fluorescent lights ballasts, vacuums with bags emptied

Electronics Recycling is our annual Spring Fundraiser event which is planned by the AUUF Green Sanctuary Committee. We are committed to support the mission & values of AUUF. Our intent is to prevent harmful electronics, batteries and other recyclable waste getting into our landfill.

Peace Camp seeking Teen camp counselors

THIS SUNDAY! April 21

Shout out to teens interested in becoming a camp counselor for Peace Camp June 24-28. Do you enjoy childcare, fun times with kids, bike riding and more! Increase your summer fun with an exciting week at Peace Camp. Counselors ages 16 and older, Ages 14-15 Junior Counselors. Counselor Information meeting 12:30 - 1:30 in the Youth room. There will be a light lunch during the meeting.

Peace Camp is back! June 24 - 28, 2024!

Children & youth from 1st - 8th grade are welcome to participate.

We are looking forward to a week in our beautiful Alaska outdoors, rain or shine! Music,

stories, Crafts, games and bike rides. Lots of fun for everyone. Adults interested in volunteering in some way, please contact Elayne Hunter, Annie Belts or Rosene Beachy. And if you've been saving any of those giant coffee /fruit cans, we would love to take them off your hands.

Registration forms are available on the AUUF website as well as the RE Facebook Group. Early bird registration by May 1. Payment can be made on the AUUF Donations page.

Rev. Lise Out of Office

Rev. Lise will be out of town April 15-21 to attend a minister's meeting in the Seattle area and to spend some time with friends. If you have a pastoral concern please reach out to Peggy at the office (907.248-3737) and she'll connect you with a Caring Connection member or Rev. Lise. Thank you!

What's happening with the 2024 Congregational Survey???

Wow! We got 106 surveys returned! A big THANK YOU to all who participated. Respondents ranged from brand new members to long-timers who have been part of AUUF more than 30 years. All of the Fellowship's programs and activities are well-represented in the submitted surveys. The survey team is at work compiling the results and we'll provide an overview at the annual meeting on May 5 – come and hear what we're learning!

The thoughtful and varied responses are a reminder of all we collectively value at AUUF. Every program and activity in the course of the year was highlighted as important to one or more people.

The attached word cloud shows the most common adjectives used to describe why people come to AUUF. The size of the words in the cloud is proportional to the number of times they were mentioned – you will see that Community and the People at AUUF stand out more than any individual program, and there are many things valued here.

We look forward to sharing more with you as we finish synthesizing the responses.
Marty Freeman, Joel Cladouhos, and Kalen Saxton



Help Others Remember Your Name! Name Badges Help

Hey long-timers at AUUF who would like a nice metal plate with the new logo added to their wooden name badge! We have a number of these that can be turned around in a week! Simply give your wooden badge to Denise Martin on a Sunday before or after the service. A new batch of name badges for new members is being ordered soon. If you're a long-timer who has lost their wooden badge, we can order a replacement if you contact Denise by April 28th. (Or fill out an order form in the lobby and turn it in to the office).

Remember: we all help make connections easier by wearing our name tags on Sunday. We strive to provide printed paper ones for those who come regularly and are still on the journey to membership. Questions? Contact admin@anchorageuuf.org



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For more information about the tours, visit www.WhaleCoastAK.org. On that website are the full itineraries, information about what to expect, and guidelines about traveling and health, including Covid protocols. All guests and hosts are required to be fully vaccinated (including boosters) against Covid to participate.

Peggy Robinson is the AUUF Coordinator. Attached is the volunteer form for you to complete and return ASAP. It is in a fillable PDF format if you prefer. Email to whalecoast@anchorageuuf.org.

[Click here for the volunteer form.](#)

AUUF Seder

Saturday, April 27, from 6 to 8 p.m.
It's time for a seder, UU-style



As most of you know, a seder is the ritual meal that Jewish families prepare for the first night of Passover.

There is a collective telling of the story of Passover, then a shared meal. We have a tradition of celebrating the holiday with UU twists. Even for religious Jews, the seder is a story of liberation and religious freedom. It is also a time of committing to work for others who still suffer without that freedom. Our seder emphasizes those themes.

[Click here to read more.](#)

Sign up for Hospitality duty at AUUF

Lots of slots open for Sunday morning greeters, zoom ushers and social hour hosts for the month of April at AUUF. Please consider helping so we continue to be a warm and welcoming congregation! We appreciate those who continuously help out. Questions? Contact connections@anchorageuuf.org

Click on the button below to view the signups.



AUUF Job Description: Congregational Administrator

Now Accepting Applications!

Do you know someone who is organized and detail-oriented, has great customer service skills, and you think would fit in well with our congregation? We are now accepting applications for the Congregational Administrator position. It is approximately 20 hours per week, mainly in the office during the day, and performs a wide variety of administrative tasks with minimal guidance.

Click on the [job description link](#) for full information about the position.

To apply:

1. Read more about us on our website and our national organization's website, uua.org.
2. Submit a resume and a cover letter describing why you want to work for AUUF in this position and how you meet the listed qualifications.
3. Email both to RevLise@anchorageuuf.org. Put "Administrator" in the subject line. Applications will be reviewed upon receipt. The position is open until filled. References will be checked and a background check performed.

See AUUF [Job descriptions](#). now accepting applications, congregational members are eligible to apply.

DRE Job opening

Title: Director of Religious Exploration

Do you know someone who is welcoming, creative, enjoys children, loves to learn, collaborate and is organized? If you think they'd add positive elements to our congregational culture, please tell them about our Director of Religious Exploration position! This position is full-time with the ability to work in the office and at home, although working on Sundays and some evenings is required. We've recently increased the salary rate to make the position more competitive and interested parties may apply by following the below steps.

To Apply:

1. Explore our website, anchorageuuf.org, see [full job description](#), and our national organization's website, www.uua.org.
2. Submit a cover letter describing why you want to work for Anchorage Unitarian Universalist Fellowship in this position and how you meet the listed qualifications.
3. Submit a resume. Email your resume and cover letter to

Applications will be reviewed upon receipt. Position is open until filled. References will be checked and a background check done.

April 2024 HALF PORTION FOR SOCIAL ACTION: STAR

Serving Alaskans since 1978, Standing Together Against Rape (STAR) is a non-profit organization based in Anchorage. STAR's mission is to prevent sexual trauma and provide comprehensive, collaborative crisis intervention, advocacy, and support to victims/survivors, their families, and our communities, with the long-term goal of ending sexual violence in Alaska.

STAR's Prevention & Education team provides age-appropriate, educational workshops in schools, workplaces, and community groups to empower individuals with knowledge and tools to prevent sexual assault. Various topics are covered such as Sexual Assault and Consent, Child Abuse Awareness and Prevention, Healthy Relationships, LGBTQ2+ Competency, Advocacy 101, Internet Safety, Bystander Intervention, Mandated Reporting, and Vicarious Trauma and Wellness. STAR presentations can be tailored to meet the needs of just about any organization.

With the supportive guidance of a STAR Direct Services Advocate, survivors receive emotional support, trauma-informed care, referrals, access to local resources, trauma therapy, and assistance in navigating the legal system. STAR recognizes that each survivor's needs are unique, and we tailor our services accordingly. All STAR services for Survivors are free of charge, and the STAR Crisis Line is free, confidential, and available 24/7.

In Anchorage: (907) 276-7273 or
Toll-Free Statewide (800) 478-8999

The needs of our clients vary depending on the individual, but we often accept donations of new clothing, underwear, shoes, and winter gear, because these items are often surrendered by the client for evidence collection.

This April, during Sexual Assault Awareness Month, we are encouraging our community to get involved however possible. Your volunteer efforts and donations can make a significant impact in helping survivors and preventing sexual violence. By standing together, we can create a safer and more compassionate world for all.

Learn more about STAR's programs and services at www.staralaska.com.

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

Connect with us



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FELLOWSHIP
*diverse beliefs,
common purpose.*

Today At Our Fellowship Thursday, April 25, 2024

This Weekend @ AUUF Find Zoom [links here.](#)

Thursday 4/25/24

5:30 Anti-Racism Team
6:30 pm Choir

Friday 4/26/24

9:15 am-12:15 pm Private Rental
12:00 pm Freethinkers only at AUUF
4:00 pm- 7:00 pm Potluck: Intro to Plant-Based/Whole Foods Preparation

Saturday 4/27/24

8:30-10:30 am AA Slap Happy Group
10:30 pm Private Rental
1:00-3:00 pm Private Rental
6:00 pm Seder Dinner Potluck

Sunday 4/28/24

9:00 am The Forum only on Zoom

11:00 am Sunday Worship IN- PERSON
& on Zoom

12:30 pm Budget Information Meeting

4:00 pm Anchorage Friends Meeting:

Monday 4/29/24

4:00-6:00 pm Private Rental
6:30 pm Fireweed Sangha of Mindful
Living- Private Rental Visitors welcome

Tuesday 4/30/24

6:00 pm Community Connections

Wednesday 5/1/24

5:00 pm Connections Team Meeting
7:00 pm Building & Grounds Meeting

Thursday 5/2/24

6:30 pm Choir Rehearsal

Half Portion for April

[STAR](#)

Save the Date! Annual Meeting May 5!



Our AUUF Annual Meeting is on Sunday, May 5, at 10am, with registration and breakfast snacks beginning at 9:30. If you are a member, you should have received your packet in your email last week. If you did not get one or would like a hardcopy, please contact Peggy in the office and she will send one to you. There are also some copies available on the table box in the social room.



The Forum Only on Zoom

9:00 am Sunday, April 28, 2024

Poetry Sunday: Readings by Alaskan Poets from Around the State and Beyond

The Forum

Only on Zoom

9:00 am April 28, 2024

[Click here to join on Zoom.](#)

April at the Forum

Hello, Spring! April brings four new Forum programs. We are continuing to meet **in-person on the first and third Sundays** of each month. And, we continue to make the Forum available by **Zoom every Sunday** for those who can't make it to the building, but **we encourage folks to show up at the Fellowship for the in-person Forums if you can.** It's great to see one another "in 3-D." It helps rebuild our sense of community that took a big hit during Covid, and it's a lot nicer for speakers who take their Sunday mornings to join us in the building to look out and see people in the chairs, however nice it is to know so many of you are with us from the warmth of your Zoom boxes. However you join us, though, we're happy to be together each Sunday. As a reminder, **childcare** is being provided **during the in-person Forums.**

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Bridging Service



Sunday Worship in-person & on Zoom

11:00 am Sunday, April 28, 2024

High School Bridging Service

Rev. Lise Adams Sherry; Joyce Laine, Worship Associate

Sunday Worship

Live at AUUF & and on Zoom

11:00 am April 28, 2024

[Click here to join on Zoom.](#)

This month, the theme of our Sunday worship is Interdependence. It's fitting because as religious and spiritual people, we recognize the myriad of ways we are connected to and depend on one another. As caring people, what are we called to do with this knowledge?

April 28, 2024, In-person and Zoom

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It's time for a seder, UU-style

As most of you know, a seder is the ritual meal that Jewish families prepare for the first night of Passover.

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[Click here to read more.](#)

Zoom Sound is Working Again/Stay Tuned for

Possible Changes in Zoom Forum Schedule

- An unfortunate issue with our sound equipment left Zoom attendees without audio for last Sunday's (April 21) Forum with Prof. Roman Dial. The problem was identified and fixed shortly after the Forum was over, so everything should work fine for this Sunday's Zoom-Only Forum with Alaskan poets from around the state and beyond reading their work as we celebrate National Poetry Month.
 - The audio problem last Sunday also meant there was no sound recording available from which to make a podcast, but we are working on this and hope to be able to re-create something close to what was presented in person to add to the AUUF Podcast Archives.
 - Stay tuned for updates about possible changes during the summer as to which Forums will be Zoom-Only. We may need to make a few departures our established pattern to accommodate other uses of the building such as Whale Coast and possible changes in the Worship Services schedule during the Summer, and will keep you posted.
-

Freethinkers

12:00 pm Friday at AUUF

The Freethinkers group has completed reading of *I've Been Thinking* by Daniel Dennett.

In our last selection meeting, that book was tied with *The Brain That Changes Itself: Stories of Personal Triumph from the Frontiers of Brain Science* by Norman Doidge so the group has taken up that book starting last Friday April 19.

Dr. Doidge published this book in 2007 and is calling attention to some rather remarkable cures of various brain trauma or dysfunction. The first chapter dealt with an individual rewiring and retraining the brain to compensate for a complete loss of vestibular balance function caused by an antibiotic. This cure was assisted by an artificial accelerometer delivering its signal via the tongue. The second chapter dealt with Barbara Arrowsmith who persisted in retraining her brain to progress from being classified as retarded to a founder of the Arrowsmith schools for the mentally challenged.

We will proceed to read the third chapter (through page 92) for April 26.

Winter Photos of Anchorage Needed for WhaleCoast Banquet

Do you have some beautiful, unique, fun, or horrifying photos of Anchorage in winter that you would like to share with our WhaleCoast guests? A suggestion was made to put together a slide show of them to play during part of the WhaleCoast banquet so guests can see what it looks like here in the winter. Please submit them to WhaleCoast@anchorageuuf.org. If it is important to understand the photo with a caption, please include it. No more than 5 from anyone person so we can get an assortment. Erik Hill, professional photographer and member, has graciously volunteered to compile them for us.

Peace Camp is back! June 24 - 28, 2024!

Children & youth from 1st - 8th grade are welcome to participate.

We are looking forward to a week in our beautiful Alaska outdoors, rain or shine! Music, stories, Crafts, games and bike rides. Lots of fun for everyone. Adults interested in volunteering in some way, please contact Elayne Hunter, Annie Belts or Rosene Beachy. And if you've been saving any of those giant coffee /fruit cans, we would love to take them off your hands.

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Peggy Robinson is the AUUF Coordinator. Attached is the volunteer form for you to complete and return ASAP. It is in a fillable PDF format, (Must be downloaded to be fillable.) if you prefer. Email to whalecoast@anchorageuuf.org.

[Click here for the volunteer form.](#)

Would you like to add some photography to your art collection?

Some of you may know that Nienhausers recently moved into a senior retirement living situation. As such they have had to downsize and their daughter-in-law, Gretchen Nelson has been helping them with this. One of the things they have in abundance are Gayle's wonderful photographs. Gretchen will be bringing a good representation of his collection to the fellowship this Sunday, May 28, for interested folks. All the photographs are free. Thank you Gayle and Gretchen!

AUUF Job Description: Congregational Administrator

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Title: Director of Religious Exploration

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April 2024 HALF PORTION FOR SOCIAL ACTION: STAR

Serving Alaskans since 1978, Standing Together Against Rape (STAR) is a non-profit organization based in Anchorage. STAR's mission is to prevent sexual trauma and provide comprehensive, collaborative crisis intervention, advocacy, and support to victims/survivors, their families, and our communities, with the long-term goal of ending sexual violence in Alaska.

STAR's Prevention & Education team provides age-appropriate, educational workshops in schools, workplaces, and community groups to empower individuals with knowledge and tools to prevent sexual assault. Various topics are covered such as Sexual Assault and Consent, Child Abuse Awareness and Prevention, Healthy Relationships, LGBTQ2+ Competency, Advocacy 101, Internet Safety, Bystander Intervention, Mandated Reporting, and Vicarious Trauma and Wellness. STAR presentations can be tailored to meet the needs of just about any organization.

With the supportive guidance of a STAR Direct Services Advocate, survivors receive emotional support, trauma-informed care, referrals, access to local resources, trauma therapy, and assistance in navigating the legal system. STAR recognizes that each survivor's needs are unique, and we tailor our services accordingly. All STAR services for Survivors are free of charge, and the STAR Crisis Line is free, confidential, and available 24/7.

In Anchorage: (907) 276-7273 or
Toll-Free Statewide (800) 478-8999

The needs of our clients vary depending on the individual, but we often accept donations of new clothing, underwear, shoes, and winter gear, because these items are often surrendered by the client for evidence collection.

This April, during Sexual Assault Awareness Month, we are encouraging our community to get involved however possible. Your volunteer efforts and donations can make a significant impact in helping survivors and preventing sexual violence. By standing together, we can create a safer and more compassionate world for all.

Learn more about STAR's programs and services at www.staralaska.com.

Go to anchorageuuf.org
Click on the Half-Portion note or Donate/ Pay
at the bottom of the home page.
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Our AUUF Covenant

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Connect with us



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FELLOWSHIP
*diverse beliefs,
common purpose.*

Today At Our Fellowship Thursday, May 2, 2024

This Weekend @ AUUF Find Zoom [links here.](#)

Thursday 5/2/24

6:30 pm Choir

Friday 5/3/24

9:15 am-12:15 pm Private Rental

12:00 pm Freethinkers only at AUUF

Saturday 5/4/24

8:30-10:30 am AA Slap Happy Group

10:30 pm Private Rental

1:00-3:00 pm Private Rental

3:00-9:00 pm Private Rental

Sunday 5/5/24

10:00 am (Doors open at 9:30 am)

Annual Meeting

Live at AUUF only

4:00 pm Anchorage Friends Meeting

Monday 5/6/24

4:00-6:00 pm Private Rental

6:30 pm Fireweed Sangha of Mindful

Living- Private Rental Visitors welcome

Tuesday 5/7/24

4:00 pm Forum Planning on Zoom

Wednesday 5/8/24

6:00 pm Safer Congregation Team

Meeting

Thursday 5/9/24

5:30 pm CYRE Team Meeting

6:30 pm Choir Rehearsal

Half Portion for May

[Facing Foster Care in Alaska](#)



AUUF Annual Business Meeting

May 5, 2024, 10:00 AM – 12:30 PM

(Building opens at 9:30 am)

In- Person at AUUF

Annual Meeting this Sunday

In- person at AUUF only

Our AUUF Annual Meeting is on Sunday, May 5, at 10am, with registration and breakfast snacks beginning at 9:30. If you are a member, you should have received your packet in your email. If you did not get one or would like a hardcopy, please contact Peggy in the office and she will send one to you. There are also some copies available on the table box in the social room.

[Click here for Notice of Annual Meeting.](#)

Minister's Message

I was looking for something to write about, and when in doubt, I often search for historical things to inspire me. It reminds me how far we've come and that while things may seem bleak (because . . . please insert your own world or personal calamity here), we have made progress over the years. Progress for human rights, for caring for our Earth, for listening to one another, for joining our efforts for the common good. True, we have a long way to go and often it feels, and it is, one step forward followed by two or even three steps back, but we do continue forward movement.

Did you know that in the month of May, 1961, the Unitarians and the Universalists consolidated to create the Unitarian Universalist Association? And now 63 years later we continue to work for justice and love and honor our living tradition—we make room for growth and change. On May 2, 1994, Nelson Mandela gave his victory speech after beating President F.W. de Klerk in South Africa's first democratic elections. This year thousands around the world spent May 1 in protest over their right to economic security and others continued to insist on a ceasefire in Gaza. And these are just four events that have happened over time.

These protestors, freedom fighters, and progressive religious visionaries have and continue to work for building the momentum necessary to change our world. And while some may think I'm naïve, I do truly believe that every action, every thought, every word that goes towards undoing oppression, no matter how small, is helpful. Tonight I saw a friend of mine on their bicycle and they had a small card, about 5" x 3", woven into the

spokes of their tire and it read "Ceasefire Now!" My friend is adding to the momentum, too, and by taking the time and effort to share his message, he's showing everyone who sees it that he is one more person who doesn't agree with what is happening. It's all cumulative—we just have to make sure that we keep pouring our actions and our hopes onto the same side until we finally tip the scales for justice and love. May it be so.

Happy May Day and Happy Spring!

With blessings and love, Rev. Lise

Saturday Spiff-Up at AUUF May 18, 9 am - 1 pm

Join us Saturday, May 18, as we take some time to build community and spiff up our AUUF grounds. All ages are welcome! We'll have some coffee and muffins (feel free to bring snacks, too) to get us started and then we'll clean up beds, plant flowers and vegetables, talk, laugh, run around, shoot a few baskets, do chalk drawings on the sidewalk, eat another muffin, dig in the dirt again, etc. Please bring:

- gardening tools and gloves if you have them;
- perennials from your yard if you'd like to share--please bring them in a pot in case we don't get a chance to plant them on May 18;
- a good amount of elbow grease;
- a sense of humor;
- excitement to create and chat with some new friends.

For more information please contact Koala (koalaak@hotmail.com) or Gwen (gjperry Crawford@gmail.com).

Winter Photos of Anchorage Needed for WhaleCoast Banquet

Do you have some beautiful, unique, fun, or horrifying photos of Anchorage in winter that you would like to share with our WhaleCoast guests? A suggestion was made to put together a slide show of them to play during part of the WhaleCoast banquet so guests can see what it looks like here in the winter. Please submit them to WhaleCoast@anchorageuuf.org. If it is important to understand the photo with a caption, please include it. No more than 5 from anyone person so we can get an assortment. Erik Hill, professional photographer and member, has graciously volunteered to compile them for us.

Peace Camp is back! June 24 - 28, 2024!

Children & youth from 1st - 8th grade are welcome to participate.

We are looking forward to a week in our beautiful Alaska outdoors, rain or shine! Music, stories, Crafts, games and bike rides. Lots of fun for everyone. Adults interested in volunteering in some way, please contact Elayne Hunter, Annie Belts or Rosene Beachy. And if you've been saving any of those giant coffee /fruit cans, we would love to take them

off your hands.

Registration forms are available on the AUUF website as well as the RE Facebook Group. Early bird registration by May 1. Payment can be made on the AUUF Donations page.

Help Others Remember Your Name! Name Badges Help

Hey long-timers at AUUF who would like a nice metal plate with the new logo added to their wooden name badge! We have a number of these that can be turned around in a week! Simply give your wooden badge to Denise Martin on a Sunday before or after the service. A new batch of name badges for new members is being ordered soon. If you're a long-timer who has lost their wooden badge, we can order a replacement if you contact Denise by April 28th. (Or fill out an order form in the lobby and turn it in to the office).

Remember: we all help make connections easier by wearing our name tags on Sunday. We strive to provide printed paper ones for those who come regularly and are still on the journey to membership. Questions? Contact admin@anchorageuuf.org



WhaleCoast Alaska has been a successful and anticipated fundraiser for AUUF for many years. We host about 80 UU visitors from all over the United States in the two tours each summer. The dates for 2024 when guests are in Anchorage are June 15-17 and 19-20 and July 24-26.

Some of our AUUF hosts have opened their homes for many years, while others just had their first experience last year. It is a wonderful opportunity to meet some very nice UU travelers and show off a bit of our state to them. If you are not able to provide housing, you could help with providing food and setup for the banquet, driving guests, or maybe even hosting in another UU's home if they can't be there.

The Anchorage UU Fellowship receives \$100 per person per night for a comfortable shared bedroom, breakfast, and transportation to and from the host home to the activity. Sometimes guests arrive early and stay with our hosts, or choose to pay double for a single room, earning us additional funds. In addition, we receive \$32 per person for the banquet and entertainment we provide on June 16 and July 25. When we provide additional transportation between venues, we earn \$5 per person per ride. Together, last year we earned almost \$23,000 that provided a much-needed supplement to our operating budget!

For more information about the tours, visit www.WhaleCoastAK.org. On that website are

the full itineraries, information about what to expect, and guidelines about traveling and health, including Covid protocols. All guests and hosts are required to be fully vaccinated (including boosters) against Covid to participate.

Peggy Robinson is the AUUF Coordinator. Attached is the volunteer form for you to complete and return ASAP. It is in a fillable PDF format,
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Now Accepting Applications! AUUF members/friends are welcome to apply.

Do you know someone who is organized and detail-oriented, has great customer service skills, and you think would fit in well with our congregation? We are now accepting applications for the Congregational Administrator position. It is approximately 20 hours per week, mainly in the office during the day, and performs a wide variety of administrative tasks with minimal guidance.

Click on the job description link for full information about the position.

To apply:

1. Read more about us on our website and our national organization's website, uua.org.
 2. Submit a resume and a cover letter describing why you want to work for AUUF in this position and how you meet the listed qualifications.
 3. Email both to RevLise@anchorageuuf.org. Put "Administrator" in the subject line.
- Applications will be reviewed upon receipt. The position is open until filled. References will be checked and a background check performed.

See AUUF [Job descriptions](#). now accepting applications, congregational members are eligible to apply.

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May 2024

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Facing Foster Care in Alaska

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*diverse beliefs,
common purpose.*

Today At Our Fellowship Thursday, May 9, 2024

This Weekend @ AUUF Find Zoom [links here.](#)

Thursday 5/9/24

5:30 pm CYRE Team Meeting
6:30 pm Choir

Friday 5/10/24

9:15 am-12:15 pm Private Rental
12:00 pm Freethinkers only at AUUF
6:30 pm Small Group discussion with
Rev. Lise

Saturday 5/11/24

8:30-10:30 am AA Slap Happy Group
10:30 pm Private Rental
1:00-5:00 pm Peace Camp CPR/ First aid
training

Sunday 5/12/24

9:00 am The Forum Only on ZOOM

11:00 am Sunday Worship Live at AUUF
& on ZOOM

1:30-3:30 pm Karyn Grove-Bruce Piano
Recital
1:30 pm Worship Associate Meeting on
Zoom
4:00 pm Anchorage Friends Meeting

Monday 5/13/24

4:00-6:00 pm Private Rental
6:30 pm Fireweed Sangha of Mindful
Living- Private Rental Visitors welcome

Tuesday 5/14/24

Mayoral Run-Off Election - last day
1:30 pm HR Committee Meeting on Zoom
2:30 pm Hungry Book Club
5:30 pm Thank you for Shelter Volunteers
5:30 pm Finance Committee Meeting

Wednesday 5/15/24

Thursday 5/16/24

5:30 pm Board of Director's Meeting
6:30 pm Choir Rehearsal

Half Portion for May

[Facing Foster Care in Alaska](#)



The Forum Only on Zoom

9:00 am Sunday, May 12, 2024

Helping Alaskan Youth in Need Amanda Metivier, Facing Foster Care AK & Heidi Huppert, Covenant House Alaska

The Forum

Only on Zoom

9:00 am Sunday, May 12, 2024

[Click here to join on Zoom.](#)

[Click here for Speaker's bio.](#)



Sunday Worship Live at AUUF & on Zoom

11:00 am Sunday, May 12, 2024

Mamas Day: Celebrating Mamas of Color

Rev. Lise Adams Sherry, Barb Clark

Sunday Worship

Live at AUUF & on Zoom

11:00 am Sunday, May 12, 2024

[Click here to join on Zoom.](#)

Join us for an easy social justice project!

May 19th, 12:30 - 2:30 at AUUF

On the third Sundays of each month (May 19th this time), right after the 11:00 service is finished, members of the AUUF Anti-Racism team will be working with the ACLU Prisons Project by helping them send out a newly established monthly newsletter to prison inmates in Alaska. The newsletter is written by a member of the ACLU staff and is geared towards keeping inmates informed about issues related to prisons as well as to give them a bright spot in their month by receiving some mail. We at AUUF are helping with the folding, stuffing, and addressing envelopes. It is easy, fun, and for a good cause. If you would like to join us, please come to the social room after the service and you will see us there. You can stay as briefly or as long as you like. Many hands make light work.

Lost and Found - Until May 28!

Have you lost something at AUUF? Or can't find something and think it may have been left here? Please check out the collection of items from these past months that are in the lobby upstairs, on the coat rack and in the boxes below. After May 28, they will be given to a charity.

CPR Training

Saturday May 11, 1-5 pm

There will be a 4 hour CPR / first aid/ AED training at AUUF this Saturday, May 11 1-5 pm.

It will be certified and led by Alyeska Rescue. Peace Camp Counselors, Childcare givers, teachers, parents, friends welcome.

There are 20 spots available. Please contact Annie Belts annie.belts@gmail.com , or Rosene Beachy rbeachy@alaskalife.net

if you would like to participate. Great deal - only \$50 per person!

May 5 Annual Meeting

Wow! If you missed it, you missed out!

From Pres. Don's year-end recap in his bright feather boa, to Committee Chair David O'Brien's fancy graphed Endowment presentation, to Treasurer Doug Eby's "non-deficit spending" Budget talk, and Marty Freeman's Congregational Survey report, along with the election/reelection of some very fine folks to the Board and Endowment Committee, who could ask for more?!

But we did have more! Board members and others made a great social occasion with breakfast snacks and a well-oiled registration process---for at least 60 voting members!! All present and accounted for...

And do you know what it sounds like when 60 of us actually sing together!? Accompanied by our awesome pianist, Esme, and led by our one and only minister, Rev. Lise!? Oh my!! Good vibrations!

Thanks and congrats to all for a lovely and most informative annual meeting:)

Cindy & Wray Kinard

Saturday Spiff-Up at AUUF May 18, 9 am - 1 pm

Join us Saturday, May 18, as we take some time to build community and spiff up our AUUF grounds. All ages are welcome! We'll have some coffee and muffins (feel free to bring snacks, too) to get us started and then we'll clean up beds, plant flowers and vegetables, talk, laugh, run around, shoot a few baskets, do chalk drawings on the sidewalk, eat another muffin, dig in the dirt again, etc. Please bring:

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Connect with us



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common purpose.*

Today At Our Fellowship Thursday, May 16, 2024

This Weekend @ AUUF Find Zoom [links here.](#)

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6:30 pm Board of Director's Meeting

Friday 5/17/24

9:15 am-12:15 pm Private Rental

12:00 pm Freethinkers only at AUUF

Saturday 5/18/24

8:30-10:30 am AA Slap Happy Group

9:00 am- 1:00 pm Spring Grounds Spruce
up event

10:00 am- 2:00 pm Tree Seedling Pick -
up

10:30 am - 3:00 pm Private Rentals

Sunday 5/19/24

9:00 am The Forum In- Person & on
ZOOM

11:00 am Sunday Worship In- Person &
on ZOOM

12:30 pm The Alliance - At AUUF

1:30 pm Worship Associate Meeting on
Zoom

4:00 pm Anchorage Friends Meeting

Monday 5/20/24

6:30 pm Fireweed Sangha of Mindful

Living- Private Rental Visitors welcome

Tuesday 5/21/24

5:30 pm Jerry's Group at AUUF

Wednesday 5/22/24

6:30 pm Fire Pit Chat

Thursday 5/23/24

5:30 pm Anti-Racism Team

Half Portion for May

[Facing Foster Care in Alaska](#)



The Forum IN PERSON & on Zoom
9:00 am Sunday, May 19, 2024

The Girls in the Boat—The Art of Rowing from the Heart
with George Bryson

The Forum

Live at AUUF & on ZOOM

9:00 am Sunday, May 19, 2024

[Click here to join on Zoom.](#)

[Click here for Speaker's bio.](#)



Sunday Worship



Sunday Worship IN PERSON & on Zoom

11:00 am Sunday, May 19, 2024

Multigenerational Celebration of Religious Exploration

Rev. Lise Adams & The CYRE Team

Sunday Worship

Live at AUUF & on Zoom

11:00 am Sunday, May 19, 2024

Join us as we look back on our year and show appreciation for our wonderful RE volunteers.

[Click here to join on Zoom.](#)

Earthquake Drill Review

Linda McCool, Safer Congregation Team

Earthquakes are a fact of life living here in the Last Frontier. Most of us have felt them. Most of them are relatively small, but occasionally there is a big one. Imagine you are at AUUF in the sanctuary attending the 9 AM Forum or the 11 AM service with the room filled to almost capacity and you feel the building shake, not just a little, but a LOT. Would you know what to do? Please review the following information.

If you are in a sanctuary, auditorium, stadium, or theater, the steps are the same:

- **Drop:** Drop to your hands and knees. If there is not enough room between seats or you cannot get down on the ground, bend over as far as possible. Those who are wheelchair users should lock their wheels and bend over as far as possible.
- **Cover:** Cover your head and neck with your arms
- **Hold on:** Grab a chair leg until the shaking stops. Do not run outside until the shaking stops to avoid being hit by falling debris. Close your eyes and mouth to protect against dust and debris.
- **Look:** After the shaking stops, look around and above you to make sure the area is safe before getting up. It may be necessary to exit the building if there is a lot of damage.

[Here is a link to a short video](#) showing the earthquake drill procedures that we will be following.

[Here is a link to a video](#) showing what to do during an earthquake for people who have mobility challenges.

It's always good to be prepared in case of an emergency, so remember to **drop, cover, and hold on!**

Safety Reminder - There is a First Aid Kit on the wall in the social room near the kitchen. If you need Band-Aids, they are in the kit.

Saturday Spiff-Up at AUUF May 18, 9 am - 1 pm

Join us Saturday, May 18, as we take some time to build community and spiff up our AUUF grounds. All ages are welcome! We'll have some coffee and muffins (feel free to bring snacks, too) to get us started and then we'll clean up beds, plant flowers and vegetables, talk, laugh, run around, shoot a few baskets, do chalk drawings on the sidewalk, eat another muffin, dig in the dirt again, etc. Please bring:

- gardening tools and gloves if you have them;
- perennials from your yard if you'd like to share--please bring them in a pot in case we don't get a chance to plant them on May 18;
- a good amount of elbow grease;
- a sense of humor;
- excitement to create and chat with some new friends.

For more information please contact Koala (koalaak@hotmail.com) or Gwen (gjperry Crawford@gmail.com).

Join us for an easy social justice project!

May 19th, 12:30 - 2:30 at AUUF

On the third Sundays of each month (May 19th this time), right after the 11:00 service is finished, members of the AUUF Anti-Racism team will be working with the ACLU Prisons Project by helping them send out a newly established monthly newsletter to prison inmates in Alaska. The newsletter is written by a member of the ACLU staff and is geared towards keeping inmates informed about issues related to prisons as well as to give them a bright spot in their month by receiving some mail. We at AUUF are helping with the folding, stuffing, and addressing envelopes. It is easy, fun, and for a good cause. If you would like to join us, please come to the social room after the service and you will see us there. You can stay as briefly or as long as you like. Many hands make light work.

Fire Pit Chat Returns to AUUF

6:30-8 pm Wednesday, May 22nd

Are you ready for Spring? The AUUF Connections Team invites you to bring your favorite beverage and join us for some informal conversations around the AUUF fire pit. This is just one of the many ways we get to know one another at AUUF--new friends and old! We might also enjoy sharing "s'mores" and other light snacks. Tell your friends. If the weather turns foul, we can move inside. For more information, email connections@anchorageuuf.org

Lost and Found - Until May 28!

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Winter Photos of Anchorage Needed for WhaleCoast Banquet

Do you have some beautiful, unique, fun, or horrifying photos of Anchorage in winter that you would like to share with our WhaleCoast guests? A suggestion was made to put together a slide show of them to play during part of the WhaleCoast banquet so guests can see what it looks like here in the winter. Please submit them to WhaleCoast@anchorageuuf.org. If it is important to understand the photo with a caption, please include it. No more than 5 from anyone person so we can get an assortment. Erik Hill, professional photographer and member, has graciously volunteered to compile them for us.

Peace Camp is back! June 24 - 28, 2024!

Children & youth from 1st - 8th grade are welcome to participate.

We are looking forward to a week in our beautiful Alaska outdoors, rain or shine! Music, stories, Crafts, games and bike rides. Lots of fun for everyone. Adults interested in volunteering in some way, please contact Elayne Hunter, Annie Belts or Rosene Beachy. And if you've been saving any of those giant coffee /fruit cans, we would love to take them off your hands.

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See AUUF [Job descriptions](#), now accepting applications, congregational members are eligible to apply.

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Music@anchorageuuf.org

Dan Norton: AV Coordinator
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AVCoordinator@anchorageuuf.org

Director of Religious Exploration,
Vacant, Please see our job description on AUUF [website](#) for more information.

Connections@AnchorageUUUF.org

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

Connect with us



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FELLOWSHIP
*diverse beliefs,
common purpose.*

Today At Our Fellowship
Thursday, May 23, 2024

This Weekend @ AUUF
Find Zoom [links here.](#)

Thursday 5/23/24

5:30 pm Anti-racism Team Meeting

Friday 5/24/24

9:15 am-12:15 pm Private Rental

12:00 pm Freethinkers only at AUUF

6:30 pm Small discussion group with Rev.
Lise

Saturday 5/25/24

8:30-10:30 am AA Slap Happy Group

10:30 am - 12:30 pm Private Rental

Sunday 5/26/24

9:00 am The Forum Only on ZOOM

11:00 am Sunday Worship In- Person &
on ZOOM

4:00 pm Anchorage Friends Meeting

Monday 5/27/24

Memorial Day Holiday - Office Closed

6:30 pm Fireweed Sangha of Mindful

Living- Private Rental Visitors welcome

Tuesday 5/28/24

Wednesday 5/29/24

1:00-4:00 pm Peace Camp Counselor
training

Thursday 5/30/24

8:00 am - 5:00 pm Private Rental

11:00 am Nominating Committee

1:00-4:00 pm Peace Camp Counselor
training

Half Portion for May

[Facing Foster Care in Alaska](#)



The Forum ONLY on Zoom
9:00 am Sunday, May 26, 2024
*Alaska's 33rd Legislature—What We Did, What We Didn't
Do, What Lies Ahead*
Senate Majority Leader Cathy Geisel

The Forum

Only on ZOOM

9:00 am Sunday, May 26, 2024

[Click here to join on Zoom.](#)

[Click here for Speaker's bio.](#)



Sunday Worship



Sunday Worship IN PERSON & on Zoom
11:00 am Sunday, May 26, 2024
With Marty Freeman & Cassie Thomas

Sunday Worship

Live at AUUF & on Zoom

11:00 am Sunday, May 26, 2024

Reasons to Remember - Memorial Day 2024

Memorial Day comes with the start of Alaska summer, planting season, and school vacations, but before heading outside -- or Outside-- take a pause with us this Sunday. Join Cassie Thomas and Marty Freeman for Reasons to Remember, an exploration of the long history and meaning of this special day, and reflections on why it's worth honoring. There will be time for congregants to add their own reasons to honor Memorial Day and to recognize loved ones or personal heroes who died in military service.

Summer RE Class Volunteers

JOIN US THIS SUMMER IN PROVIDING SUNDAY RE FOR OUR YOUTH!



Sign up through
[SignUpGenius](#)
to volunteer for a
Sunday.

Contact Katie
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May 2024

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Connect with us



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*diverse beliefs,
common purpose.*

Today At Our Fellowship Thursday, May 30, 2024

This Weekend @ AUUF Find Zoom [links here.](#)

Thursday 5/30/24

8:00 am - 5:00 pm Private rental
11:00 am- 1:00 pm Nominating
Committee
1:00-4:00 pm Peace Camp Counselor
Training

Friday 5/31/24

8:00 am - 5:00 pm Private rental
12:00 pm Freethinkers only at AUUF

Saturday 6/1/24

First Day of LGBTQ+ Pride Month
8:30-10:30 am AA Slap Happy Group

Sunday 6/2/24

9:00 am The Forum In -Person & ZOOM
11:00 am Sunday Worship In- Person &
on ZOOM
12:30 pm Social Action Council

4:00 pm Anchorage Friends Meeting

Monday 6/3/24

6:30 pm Fireweed Sangha of Mindful
Living- Private Rental Visitors welcome

Tuesday 6/4/24

4:30 pm Forum planning on Zoom

Wednesday 6/5/24

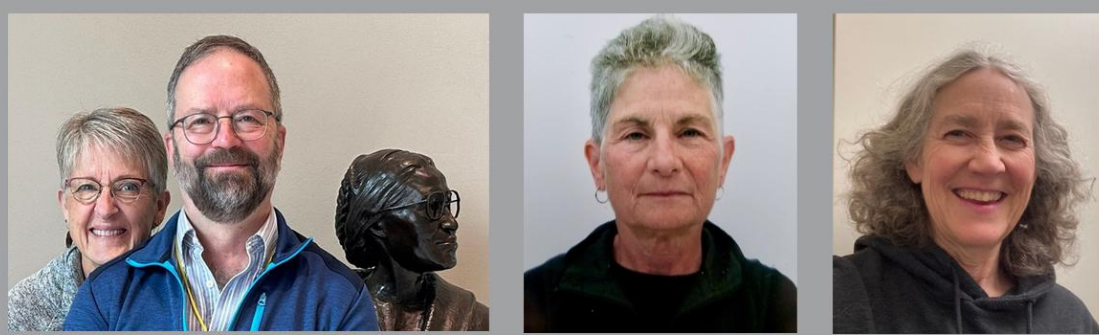
11:30 am Christians for Equality
5:00-8:00 pm Connections Team Meeting
7:00-8:30 pm Building & Grounds
Meeting

Thursday 6/6/24

7:00 pm Becca's Ordination

Half Portion for June

[Refugee Assistance and Immigration
Services](#)



The Forum In person & on Zoom
9:00 am Sunday, June 2, 2024
Stories from Our civil rights pilgrimage to Alabama with Erik
and Robin Hill, Marty Freeman, & Mel Langdon

The Forum

In-person & on ZOOM
9:00 am Sunday, June 2, 2024

[Click here to join on Zoom.](#)

[Click here for Speaker's bio.](#)



Sunday Worship



Sunday Worship Live at AUUF & on Zoom
11:00 am Sunday, June 2, 2024

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June 2024

HALF PORTION FOR SOCIAL ACTION:

Refugee Assistance and Immigration Services

Catholic Social Services' Refugee Assistance and Immigration Services (RAIS) is the primary resettlement agency in the state of Alaska. Since 2003, RAIS has been dedicated

to providing comprehensive support to refugees and new arrivals as they transition to life in the United States. Our mission is to empower new arrivals by offering a wide range of services including case management, employment support, English language classes, and cultural orientation. Through these initiatives, RAIS aims to help individuals and families achieve self-sufficiency and fully integrate into their new communities.

Currently, RAIS faces an urgent need for additional resources to support the growing number of refugees arriving in Alaska. Since 2021, the program has grown over 2000%, and currently serves over 900 individuals throughout the state. RAIS works daily to ensure safe and warm welcomes for families, enhance their educational programs, and help new arrivals build the tools for success in the United States. You can learn more about the work happening at cssalaska.org/RAIS.

If you would like to continue to support RAIS, we are in need of volunteers, particularly Meal Team members, who ensure new arrivals are well-fed with culturally appropriate food for their first three months, and childcare helpers at Fresh International Gardens - our refugee-led agricultural co-op. We also invite you to join us for a World Refugee Day celebration on June 27th at Grow North Farm located at 3601 Mountainview Drive, Anchorage from 4:00 - 7:30 PM.

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

Connect with us



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ANCHORAGE
UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST
FELLOWSHIP
*diverse beliefs,
common purpose.*

Today At Our Fellowship

Thursday, June 6, 2024

This Weekend @ AUUF
Find Zoom [links here.](#)

Thursday 6/6/24

Friday 6/7/24

9:30 am - 11:15 pm Private Rental
12:00- 2:00 pm Freethinkers only at
AUUF
6:30-8:30 pm Small Group Discussion
with Rev. Lise

Saturday 6/8/24

8:30-10:30 am AA Slap Happy Group
4:00-9:00 pm Memorial Gathering for
Maureen

Sunday 6/9/24

9:00 am The Forum ZOOM only
11:00 am Sunday Worship In- Person &
on ZOOM
12:30 pm The Alliance

1:30 pm Worship Associate Meeting
4:00 pm Anchorage Friends Meeting

Monday 6/10/24

3:30 pm Private Rental
6:30 pm Fireweed Sangha of Mindful
Living- Private Rental Visitors welcome

Tuesday 6/11/24

2:00 pm Hungry Book Club
5:15 pm PILOT to Assembly

Wednesday 6/12/24

Thursday 6/13/24

5:30 pm CYRE Team Meeting

Half Portion for June

[Refugee Assistance and Immigration
Services](#)



The Forum ZOOM only
9:00 am Sunday, June 9, 2024
*My Life in Alaska Theatre—A Conversation with Playwright,
Actor, Director, and Producer Dick Reichman*

The Forum ZOOM only
9:00 am Sunday, June 9, 2024

[Click here to join on Zoom.](#)
[Click here for Speaker's bio.](#)



Sunday Worship



Sunday Worship IN PERSON & on Zoom 11:00 am Sunday, June 9,
Is it Juneteenth yet? With Rev. Lise Adams Sherry and Michele
Champion

Sunday Worship
Live at AUUF & on Zoom
11:00 am Sunday, June 9, 2024

[Click here to join on Zoom.](#)

Freethinkers Book Selection

Freethinkers discussion group meets every Friday at 12:00pm - 1:30pm in Room 7

downstairs at AUUF. We just finishing reading *The Brain That Changes Itself* by Norman Doidge. The many examples and uses of the neuroplasticity of our brains gave us pause as we considered our own experiences with brain injuries, stroke victims, education, and so many other subject areas.

The Brain.. was our third book since our January selection meeting. We had 15 titles nominated for this round including the remaining candidates from the January selection cycle.

At our May 24 meeting, we selected our next two books. There was the usual exchange of what we know about some of the books and some advocacy plus an appropriate amount of levity. Many titles were removed for lack of a moderator. Cari again made a list on a poster board and we each gave her our top three titles. Based on the votes, we will next take up *Write Hard, Die Free* by Howard Weaver nominated by James Dryden but, we hope, moderated by George Bryson. The next book will be *A World Lit Only by Fire* by William Manchester.

We will have a one session discussion of *Yuuyaraq: The Way of the Human Being* on June 7 and begin discussion of *Write Hard, Die Free* on June 14.

[Click here to read more.](#)

Summer RE Class Volunteers

JOIN US THIS SUMMER IN PROVIDING SUNDAY RE FOR OUR YOUTH!



Sign up through
[SignUpGenius](#)
to volunteer for a
Sunday.

Contact Katie
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information or
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Peace Camp is back! June 24 - 28, 2024!

Children & youth from 1st - 8th grade are welcome to participate.

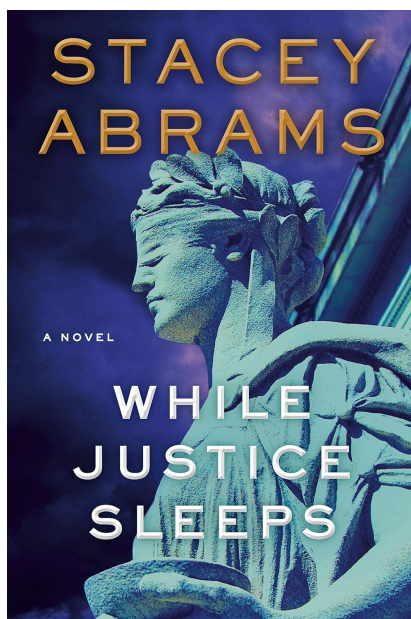
We are looking forward to a week in our beautiful Alaska outdoors, rain or shine! Music, stories, Crafts, games and bike rides. Lots of fun for everyone. Adults interested in volunteering in some way, please contact Elayne Hunter, Annie Belts or Rosene Beachy. And if you've been saving any of those giant coffee /fruit cans, we would love to take them off your hands.



Join us in community for General Assembly 2024

General Assembly (GA) offers so many ways to deepen our experience of Unitarian Universalism—whether through connection with each other and our wider community in worship, discussion and decision making about business items up for a vote, or engagement with leaders and speakers in workshops. This year's online GA, beginning Thursday, June 20 and going through Sunday, June 23, will have all of this and more.

[Click here to read more.](#)



The Hungry Book Club

The Hungry Book Club is meeting on Tuesday, June 11th at 2pm in the Library. The book being discussed is Stacy Abrams' *While Justice Sleeps*. Whether you have read the book or not, please come to join us for 90 minutes of discussion about both the book and getting to know each other better!



Our WhaleCoast guests begin arriving next week! Thank you to the many AUUF members who have volunteered to provide housing, transportation, and/or food for them while they are here. A few are coming early to Anchorage on the 13th and 14th, but the majority will arrive during the day of Saturday the 15th. They have their orientation early Sunday morning, then join us for the 11am service. Please consider attending that service – it is nice when there are more AUUF attendees than WhaleCoast guests!

Jane Gray is coordinating the banquet on Sunday evening, beginning around 5pm when they come back from their day sightseeing in Anchorage. If you would like to help provide food (and stay to join some of them for dinner too), please contact Jane directly or send an email to Whalecoast@anchorageuuf.org. The guests always enjoy being able to talk with other Alaskan UU's.

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Peggy Robinson, Chair. Mel Langdon, Co-Chair

AUUF Auction Updates

There is still space for some adventures this summer with other UU's! A few experiences for this summer still have space in them. If you are interested in a beach picnic at Kincaid Park (\$25/person, \$60/family) on August 3 or a weekend at Manitoba Huts on June 29-30 (\$175/person), please contact Carma Reed or the AUUF office.

Tom Choate may still have some space left on his Summer Alpine Walk in July (\$50). Contact him or the AUUF office for more information.

Upcoming fall auction. Former member Judith Anderegg has already contacted the office to donate one of her handknit creations for our auction this fall! It's not too soon to start thinking about what you can offer to be bid on – a handmade article? Experience or lesson? Food or a meal among congregants?

The on-line auction will again be held starting about mid-October, with it culminating in an annual dinner on Saturday, November 2 (tentative). The Auction Team needs some new members who enjoy the various aspects of organizing it, from gathering and sorting donations, writing descriptions, taking photos, monitoring the bidding, and planning and running the ending auction part of the dinner. Please contact the office at admin@anchorageuuf.org if you would like to help.

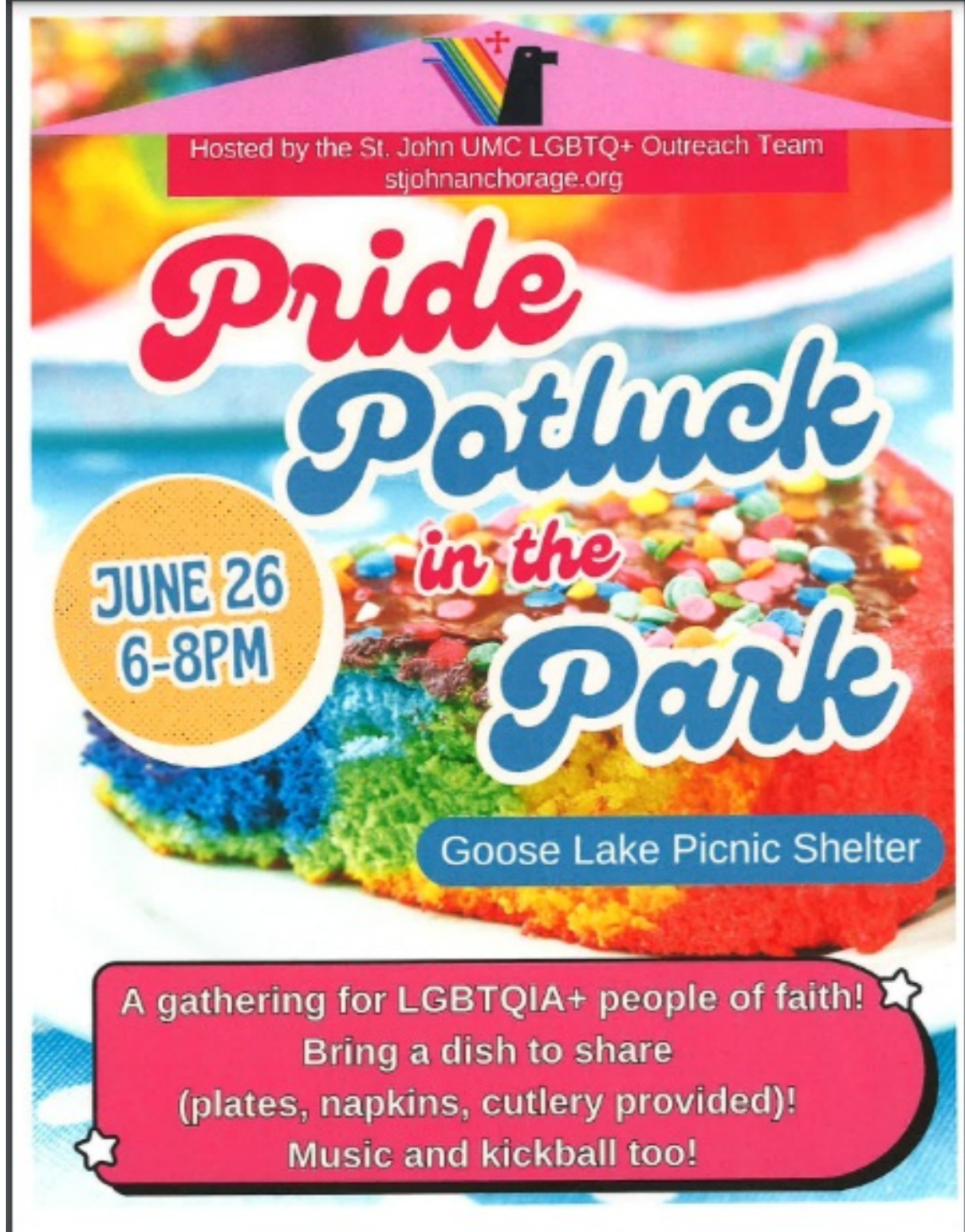
Last fall we made over \$16,000 on the auction, so this is a major (and fun) fundraiser for us. There is something for everyone to be part of this event!

Come join us!
-Peggy Robinson



PILOT

June 11th at 5pm in the Assembly Chambers at Loussac Library is the time that AUUF will present our annual PILOT check, or Payment In Lieu Of Taxes. This year the check is for \$4616 - a combination of half-portion funds from February offerings, \$1000 from the Operating Budget, and donations from 6 individuals. Don is not available this year for the presentation, so Vice President Kalen Saxton will be presenting the check to the Assembly chair. AUUF members are welcome and encouraged to come and support Kalen during the presentation. It will be on the agenda around 5:15pm.



June 2024 HALF PORTION FOR SOCIAL ACTION: Refugee Assistance and Immigration Services

Catholic Social Services' Refugee Assistance and Immigration Services (RAIS) is the primary resettlement agency in the state of Alaska. Since 2003, RAIS has been dedicated to providing comprehensive support to refugees and new arrivals as they transition to life in the United States. Our mission is to empower new arrivals by offering a wide range of services including case management, employment support, English language classes, and cultural orientation. Through these initiatives, RAIS aims to help individuals and families achieve self-sufficiency and fully integrate into their new communities.

Currently, RAIS faces an urgent need for additional resources to support the growing

number of refugees arriving in Alaska. Since 2021, the program has grown over 2000%, and currently serves over 900 individuals throughout the state. RAIS works daily to ensure safe and warm welcomes for families, enhance their educational programs, and help new arrivals build the tools for success in the United States. You can learn more about the work happening at cssalaska.org/RAIS.

If you would like to continue to support RAIS, we are in need of volunteers, particularly Meal Team members, who ensure new arrivals are well-fed with culturally appropriate food for their first three months, and childcare helpers at Fresh International Gardens - our refugee-led agricultural co-op. We also invite you to join us for a World Refugee Day celebration on June 27th at Grow North Farm located at 3601 Mountainview Drive, Anchorage from 4:00 - 7:30 PM.

Go to anchorageuuf.org
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 Tu 11-3; W and F 11-3, and by appointment

Congregational Administrator, 907-248-3737 x1 Admin@anchorageUUF.org
AUUF

Usually Monday - Thursday 10-2, plus additional hours. Please call before coming.

Kelly Spring, (she/ her) Communications Specialist,
Communications@anchorageUUF.org

Kelly's remote office hours Mon-Fri 9 am -1 pm

Esme Danner (she/her) Music Director
907-248-3737 x4
Music@anchorageuuf.org

Dan Norton: AV Coordinator
907-248-3737 x5,
AVCoordinator@anchorageuuf.org

Director of Religious Exploration,

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FELLOWSHIP
*diverse beliefs,
common purpose.*

Today At Our Fellowship Thursday, June 13, 2024

This Weekend @ AUUF Find Zoom [links here.](#)

Thursday 6/13/24

5:30 pm CYRE Team Meeting

Friday 6/14/24

9:30-11:00 am Music Together Mountain song

12:00- 2:00 pm Freethinkers only at AUUF

Saturday 6/15/24

WhaleCoast Guests arrive

8:30-10:30 am AA Slap Happy Group

6:00-7:30 pm WhaleCoast set up

Sunday 6/16/24

8:00-11:00 am WhaleCoast Orientation

12:30-5:00 pm WhaleCoast Set-up

5:00-8:00 pm WhaleCoast Banquet

9:00 am The Forum **ONLY ON ZOOM**

11:00 am Sunday Worship In- Person & on ZOOM

4:00 pm Anchorage Friends Meeting

Monday 6/17/24

3:30 pm Private Rental

6:30 pm Fireweed Sangha of Mindful Living- Private Rental Visitors welcome

Tuesday 6/18/24

Wednesday 6/19/24

Thursday 6/20/24

5:30 pm Peace Camp Meeting

Half Portion for June

[Refugee Assistance and Immigration Services](#)



The Forum ONLY on ZOOM 9:00 am Sunday, June 16, 2024
Climate Change and the Bering Sea Fisheries
Journalist Hal Bernton

The Forum ONLY on ZOOM
9:00 am Sunday, June 13, 2024

[Click here to join on Zoom.](#)
[Click here for Speaker's bio.](#)



Sunday Worship



Sunday Worship IN PERSON & on Zoom
11:00 am Sunday, June 16, 2024
Renewing One's Story in Alaska
Rev. Lise Adams Sherry, Lauren Rench.

Sunday Worship
Live at AUUF & on Zoom
11:00 am Sunday, June 13, 2024

[Click here to join on Zoom.](#)

An Easy Social Action Activity

Please join the Anti-Racism team in the social room after the 11:00 service on Sunday

June 23rd to help stuff envelopes for the ACLU Prison Project. Each month, the ACLU sends out a newsletter to individuals who are incarcerated in Alaska prisons, giving them important updated legal information as well as some human interest items. This not only helps these individuals remain informed but also let's them know they are not forgotten. Who doesn't like to get mail, right? There will be a small group of us there for a couple of hours. Please consider joining us, for as little time or as long as you like. Thanks. (Michele Champion, 907-341-9249).

Staff Vacations

Hi Everyone,

Rev. Lise will be out of the office for a family memorial but checking her emails June 17-23. She will also be gone on vacation and out of contact for the entire month of July. Please contact the office for any pastoral care emergencies.

Kelly Spring, Communications Specialist will be out of office starting June 27, and returning July 20th.

Deadline for the June 27th edition of TAOF will be June 25th.

Introducing AUUF's new DRE

Greetings!

Some of you may have heard through the grapevine that we have hired a new Director of Religious Exploration (DRE). Annie Belts, Andee Cordano and Cristy Willer were all on the search team with me and hopefully, you're as excited by this news as we are. Jennifer has included an introduction of herself below, including some dates she'll be visiting soon. Before her move, she has to wrap things up in Minnesota which will take a few months. So she will begin to work for us halftime and virtually on August 1. She'll attend some meetings by Zoom that month so she can get to know us while also working on familiarizing herself with our curricula and events. The last week in August she and her husband will be driving up, and then she begins her fulltime, in-person journey with us on September 1. Yay!

So, please read below to meet our new DRE!

Warm regards, Rev. Lise

Greetings from Marble, Minnesota!

My name is Jennifer Bluntach and I am so grateful, excited, and feel so fortunate for the opportunity to step into the role as the new DRE at AUUF! I look forward to meet everyone and learn more about what the members and friends of the Fellowship are passionate about as well as how I can be of best service to the community. This is going to be a great adventure!

I was born, raised and have lived in northern Minnesota my entire life. I have a beautiful blended family. My husband is Ryan, daughter Hannah (26), her partner Jake(25), grandson Theodore(2), son Jack (22), step-son Austin (18), step-daughter Emma (16), step-daughter Autumn (9).

For eleven years I worked as the Activity Director at a retirement community. For the past five years I have been the office manager and youth director at Community Presbyterian Church in Grand Rapids, Minnesota. I love planning events (especially themed events!), youth retreats, youth trips, fundraisers, volunteer opportunities in the community and much more! I have planned and organized two high school youth group retreats in Wisconsin and taken the youth to two week long high school youth conferences in Montreal, North Carolina. At the beginning of June I will be taking them to North Carolina for one last trip together.

I'm excited to hear what the youth at AUUF might be interested in and passionate about. I always tell kids to dream big! We've made some of those dreams a reality at Community Presbyterian and we can do the same at the Fellowship!

Some of my other interests are any activities I can do with my grandson and family, baking, cooking, thrifting, antiques, Minnesota Timberwolves basketball and traveling somewhere new whenever possible! I am early to bed and early to rise. Even though I love and value community, I am an introvert and appreciate those days with absolutely zero plans. The days that I can just hang out at home with a cup of good coffee, read a book, watch a documentary and maybe even take an afternoon nap help me to recharge. My husband, dad and myself will be visiting Anchorage June 22-July 1. I plan to come to the 11am service at the Fellowship on June 23. Please introduce yourself to me if you are there! I'm good with remembering faces but it may take me some time to remember names. I'll do my best!

With gratitude and great excitement,
Jennifer Bluntach



The Things We Find at AUUF . . .

On Tuesday, I arrived at the Fellowship to find a sports jacket, two ties and a pretty cool hat all hanging on the doorknob of my office door. My first reaction was to chuckle and shake my head, my next action was to ask our administrator (Peggy) if she knew anything about the surprise at my door. No, she did not. I have a very vague recollection of someone saying they wanted to leave something for someone on Sunday, but I didn't think it was clothes, but then it is a vague recollection. (I'm still chuckling at this as I write by the way.) This is not the first time that a mystery gift has been left at my door.

All of this is to ask folks who are thinking of leaving things at the Fellowship, to please 1. check with a staff person first, and then 2. include a note with your deposit. :-) (If someone did speak to me about the jacket ensemble, please pardon my forgetfulness and let me know what it is about.)

Oftentimes, folks will leave donations for us, which is a very kind thought, but we don't always have a need or space for some of these gifts. As should be apparent from this message, I at least, don't have the bandwidth to keep track of or be a go-between for deliveries. :-)

We do have a "will call" box hanging on the wall in the photocopy room if you need to leave a card for someone, and there are also the team/committee mail folders in that room as well.

Thank you so much for your understanding and helping me to keep my brain space a little more organized!

Warm regards, Rev. Lise



Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILOT)

AUUF members attended the Municipality of Anchorage regular assembly meeting on June 10 to make our annual PILOT payment to the municipality. This is the 58th year that AUUF has made such a payment in recognition of the municipal services that we receive as a congregation - in spite of the fact that we are not legally obligated to pay taxes. This year a check for \$4,616 was presented to the assembly. Board vice president Kalen Saxton made the formal presentation to the assembly and was joined by Lise Sherry, James Dryden and Stephanie Koonz, Linda McCool, David O'Brien, and Terry and Don Antrobus.

Summer RE Class Volunteers

JOIN US THIS SUMMER IN PROVIDING SUNDAY RE FOR OUR YOUTH!



Sign up through
[SignUpGenius](#)
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Contact Katie
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Children & youth from 1st - 8th grade are welcome to participate.

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Registration forms are available on the AUUF website as well as the RE Facebook Group. Early bird registration by May 1. Payment can be made on the AUUF Donations page.



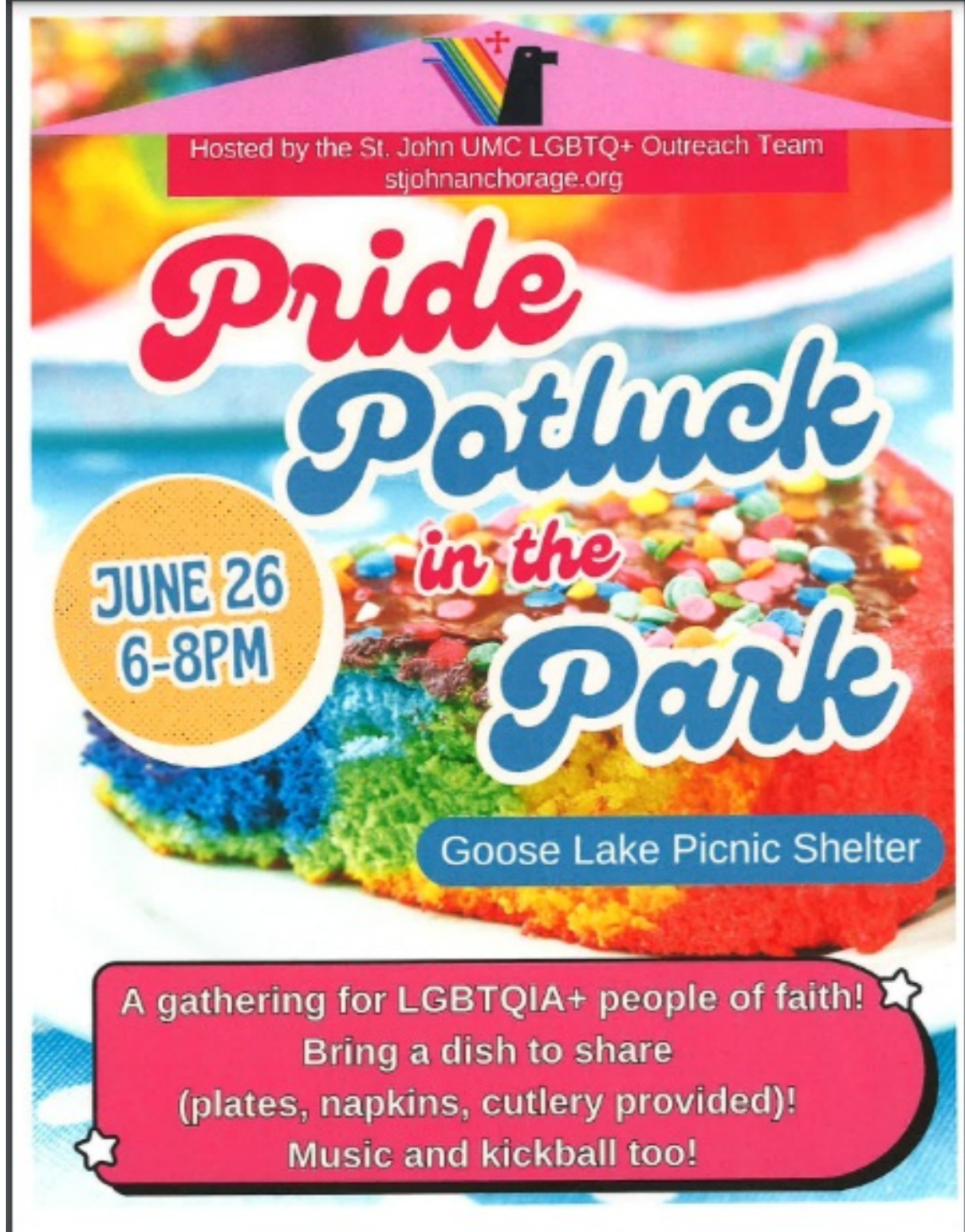
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Peggy Robinson, Chair. Mel Langdon, Co-Chair



Anchorage Pride Parade: March with AUUF!

Saturday, June 29, 2024, 11:30 AM

Delaney Park Strip

The Anchorage Unitarian Universalist Fellowship is a Gold Sponsor of the Pride Parade this year, so let's show up in force to represent our UU values of love and justice!

Wear your "Side With Love" T-shirts and other festive UU gear, and come join us. If you forget your rainbow face paint and glitter, we've got you covered! We'll meet up at 11:15 AM at the Parade starting point – more details to come in future announcements.

Any questions, please contact Becca Bernard at 907-244-3988 or Gwen Perry Crawford at 907-360-7209. A huge thank you to the Alliance for covering the cost of our participation in this joyful community event!

AUUF Auction Updates

There is still space for some adventures this summer with other UU's! A few experiences for this summer still have space in them. If you are interested in a beach picnic at Kincaid Park (\$25/person, \$60/family) on August 3 or a weekend at Manitoba Huts on June 29-30 (\$175/person), please contact Carma Reed or the AUUF office.

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Come join us!
-Peggy Robinson



Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA) General Assembly – Call for Delegates

Would you be interested in representing AUUF at the 2024 UUA Virtual General Assembly? AUUF receives a total of 4 voting delegates. Our delegates will represent

AUUF by voting on business matters, including a vote on whether to change Article II of the UUA's Bylaws. Article II is that section of the Bylaws that describes the UUA's Principles and Purposes. If you are interested in participating as an AUUF delegate, please contact Don Antrobus at (907) 980-2077.

The annual UUA General Assembly will take place online beginning on Thursday June 20 and continue through Sunday June 23. You do not have to be a delegate to attend GA! GA offers many ways to deepen our experience of Unitarian Universalism through connections with our wider community, discussion and decision-making about business items, and engagement with leaders and speakers in worship and through multiple workshops.

For more comprehensive information on the Assembly, including schedules and program highlights please visit [General Assembly: The Unitarian Universalist Association's Annual Meeting | UUA.org](https://www.uua.org/annual-meeting)

June 2024

HALF PORTION FOR SOCIAL ACTION: Refugee Assistance and Immigration Services

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Usually Monday - Tuesday & Thursday- Friday 11:00 am-3:00 pm.
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Director of Religious Exploration,
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*diverse beliefs,
common purpose.*

Today At Our Fellowship

Thursday, June 20, 2024

This Weekend @ AUUF Find Zoom [links here.](#)

Thursday 6/20/24

6:00-9:00 pm Peace Camp & STAR and safety training

6:30-9:00 pm Board of Director's Meeting

Friday 6/21/24

9:30-11:15 am Music Together Mountain song

12:00- 2:00 pm Freethinkers only at AUUF

Saturday 6/22/24

8:30-10:30 am AA Slap Happy Group

8:00 am- 6:00 pm Private Rental

9:00-2:00 pm Set up for Peace Camp

6:00-9:30 pm Private Rental

Sunday 6/23/24

9:00 am The Forum In- Person & on ZOOM

11:00 am Sunday Worship In- Person & on ZOOM

1:00-3:00 pm Peace Camp Prep

4:00 pm Anchorage Friends Meeting

Monday 6/24/24

Peace Camp

3:30 pm Private Rental

6:30 pm Fireweed Sangha of Mindful

Living- Private Rental Visitors welcome

Tuesday 6/25/24

Peace Camp

Wednesday 6/26/24

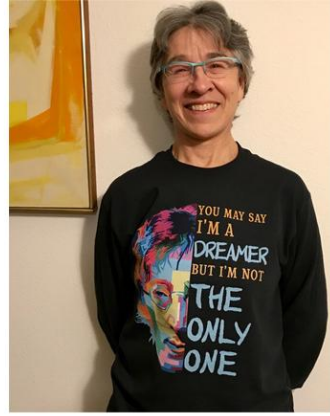
Peace Camp

Thursday 6/27/24

Peace Camp

Half Portion for June

[Refugee Assistance and Immigration Services](#)



The Forum In person & on Zoom 9:00 am Sunday, June 23, 2024
Alaska's Afghan Refugee Community
Asia Amini, Dena Doublex

The Forum

9:00 am Sunday, June 23, 2024

[Click here to join on Zoom.](#)

[Click here for Speaker's bio.](#)

Sunday Worship

Live at AUUF & on Zoom

11:00 am Sunday, June 23, 2024

[Click here to join on Zoom.](#)

AUUF Pride Fashion Show

Sunday Worship, JUNE 30, 2024 11 AM

**Participants please arrive by 10:45 am to fill
out a fashion description card for our Emcee.**

Show your life affirming identity!

Strut the runway!

Share your authenticity!

It's all part of our LGBTQ+ Affirming Worship!



**ANCHORAGE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST
FELLOWSHIP
2824 EAST 18TH AVENUE
www.AnchorageUUF.org**

Staff Vacations

Hi Everyone,

Rev. Lise will be out of the office for a family memorial but checking her emails June 17-23. She will also be gone on vacation and out of contact for the entire month of July. Please contact the office for any pastoral care emergencies.

Kelly Spring, Communications Specialist will be out of office starting June 27, and returning July 20th.

Deadline for the June 27th edition of TAOF will be June 25th.

Summer RE Class Volunteers

JOIN US THIS SUMMER IN PROVIDING SUNDAY RE FOR OUR YOUTH!



Sign up through
[SignUpGenius](#)
to volunteer for a
Sunday.

Contact Katie
Melrose for more
information or
support.

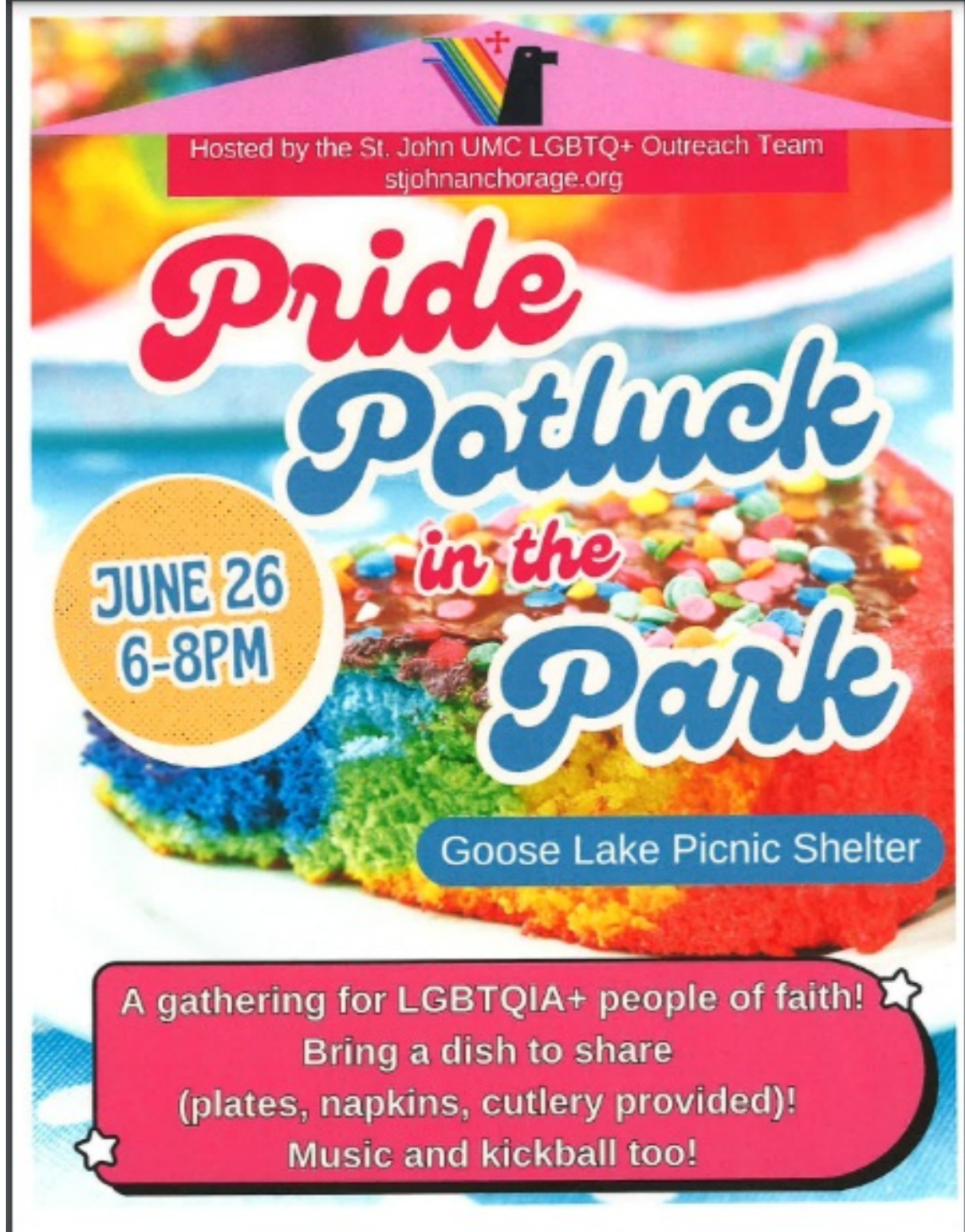
[Click here to sign up to volunteer.](#)

Peace Camp is back! June 24 - 28, 2024!

Children & youth from 1st - 8th grade are welcome to participate.

We are looking forward to a week in our beautiful Alaska outdoors, rain or shine! Music, stories, Crafts, games and bike rides. Lots of fun for everyone. Adults interested in volunteering in some way, please contact Elayne Hunter, Annie Belts or Rosene Beachy. And if you've been saving any of those giant coffee /fruit cans, we would love to take them off your hands.

Registration forms are available on the AUUF website as well as the RE Facebook Group. Early bird registration by May 1. Payment can be made on the AUUF Donations page.



Anchorage Pride Parade: March with AUUF!

Saturday, June 29, 2024, 11:30 AM

Delaney Park Strip

The Anchorage Unitarian Universalist Fellowship is a Gold Sponsor of the Pride Parade this year, so let's show up in force to represent our UU values of love and justice!

Wear your "Side With Love" T-shirts and other festive UU gear, and come join us. If you forget your rainbow face paint and glitter, we've got you covered! We'll meet up at 11:15 AM at the Parade starting point – more details to come in future announcements.

Any questions, please contact Becca Bernard at 907-244-3988 or Gwen Perry Crawford at 907-360-7209. A huge thank you to the Alliance for covering the cost of our participation in this joyful community event!

AUUF Auction Updates

There is still space for some adventures this summer with other UU's! A few experiences for this summer still have space in them. If you are interested in a beach picnic at Kincaid Park (\$25/person, \$60/family) on August 3 or a weekend at Manitoba Huts on June 29-30 (\$175/person), please contact Carma Reed or the AUUF office.

Tom Choate may still have some space left on his Summer Alpine Walk in July (\$50). Contact him or the AUUF office for more information.

Upcoming fall auction. Former member Judith Anderegg has already contacted the office to donate one of her handknit creations for our auction this fall! It's not too soon to start thinking about what you can offer to be bid on – a handmade article? Experience or lesson? Food or a meal among congregants?

The on-line auction will again be held starting about mid-October, with it culminating in an annual dinner on Saturday, November 2 (tentative). The Auction Team needs some new members who enjoy the various aspects of organizing it, from gathering and sorting donations, writing descriptions, taking photos, monitoring the bidding, and planning and running the ending auction part of the dinner. Please contact the office at admin@anchorageuuf.org if you would like to help.

Last fall we made over \$16,000 on the auction, so this is a major (and fun) fundraiser for us. There is something for everyone to be part of this event!

Come join us!
-Peggy Robinson



Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA) General Assembly – Call for Delegates

Would you be interested in representing AUUF at the 2024 UUA Virtual General Assembly? AUUF receives a total of 4 voting delegates. Our delegates will represent

AUUF by voting on business matters, including a vote on whether to change Article II of the UUA's Bylaws. Article II is that section of the Bylaws that describes the UUA's Principles and Purposes. If you are interested in participating as an AUUF delegate, please contact Don Antrobus at (907) 980-2077.

The annual UUA General Assembly will take place online beginning on Thursday June 20 and continue through Sunday June 23. You do not have to be a delegate to attend GA! GA offers many ways to deepen our experience of Unitarian Universalism through connections with our wider community, discussion and decision-making about business items, and engagement with leaders and speakers in worship and through multiple workshops.

For more comprehensive information on the Assembly, including schedules and program highlights please visit [General Assembly: The Unitarian Universalist Association's Annual Meeting | UUA.org](https://www.uua.org/general-assembly)

Two pilgrimages, two powerful journeys, Join us Fall 2024

Registration is now open for two Fall 2024 Living Legacy Pilgrimages!

The 2024 election season will be upon us before we know it. As you prepare for the outcome, come be inspired by the incredible work that happened and is still happening in Mississippi. Join us October 15-20, for 6 days and 5 nights in Memphis, the Mississippi Delta, Jackson, Philadelphia, Meridian, and Hattiesburg to learn stories of Freedom Summer, the Freedom Rides, the music and activism of B.B. King, and powerful racial justice efforts that arose after tragedy and resistance. Registration is open now! Learn more and register at [2024 Mississippi Living Legacy Pilgrimage](https://www.uua.org/mississippi-pilgrimage).

Alabama Living Legacy Pilgrimage

And regardless of the 2024 election outcome, you'll find connection with others and inspiration on the November 13-17 journey through Alabama. We'll visit Birmingham, Montgomery, and Selma on this 5-day/4-night pilgrimage focused on history and healing. Registration is open now! Learn more and register at [2024 Alabama Civil Rights Pilgrimage](https://www.uua.org/alabama-pilgrimage).

[Click here to read more.](#)

June 2024 HALF PORTION FOR SOCIAL ACTION: Refugee Assistance and Immigration Services

Catholic Social Services' Refugee Assistance and Immigration Services (RAIS) is the primary resettlement agency in the state of Alaska. Since 2003, RAIS has been dedicated to providing comprehensive support to refugees and new arrivals as they transition to life in the United States. Our mission is to empower new arrivals by offering a wide range of services including case management, employment support, English language classes, and cultural orientation. Through these initiatives, RAIS aims to help individuals and families achieve self-sufficiency and fully integrate into their new communities.

Currently, RAIS faces an urgent need for additional resources to support the growing number of refugees arriving in Alaska. Since 2021, the program has grown over 2000%, and currently serves over 900 individuals throughout the state. RAIS works daily to ensure safe and warm welcomes for families, enhance their educational programs, and help new arrivals build the tools for success in the United States. You can learn more about the work happening at cssalaska.org/RAIS.

If you would like to continue to support RAIS, we are in need of volunteers, particularly Meal Team members, who ensure new arrivals are well-fed with culturally appropriate food for their first three months, and childcare helpers at Fresh International Gardens - our refugee-led agricultural co-op. We also invite you to join us for a World Refugee Day celebration on June 27th at Grow North Farm located at 3601 Mountainview Drive, Anchorage from 4:00 - 7:30 PM.

Go to anchorageuuf.org
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 Tu 11-3; W and F 11-3, and by appointment

Congregational Administrator, 907-248-3737 x1 Admin@anchorageUUF.org
Usually Monday - Tuesday & Thursday- Friday 11:00 am-3:00 pm.
Please call before coming.

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Kelly's remote office hours Mon-Fri 9 am -1 pm

Esme Danner (she/her) Music Director
907-248-3737 x4
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Dan Norton: AV Coordinator
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AVCoordinator@anchorageuuf.org

Director of Religious Exploration,
Our new DRE will start August 1, 2024. Please contact Rev. Lise in the mean time.

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

Connect with us



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*diverse beliefs,
common purpose.*

Today At Our Fellowship

Thursday, June 27, 2024

This Weekend @ AUUF Find Zoom [links here.](#)

Thursday 6/27/24

Peace Camp

5:30 pm Anti-Racism Team Meeting

Friday 6/28/24

Peace Camp until 4:00 pm

9:30-11:15 am Music Together Mountain song

12:00- 2:00 pm Freethinkers only at AUUF

4:00-6:00 pm End of Peace Camp BBQ for volunteers

Saturday 6/29/24

8:30-10:30 am AA Slap Happy Group

6:00-8:30 pm Private Rental

Sunday 6/30/24

9:00 am The Forum In- Person & on ZOOM

11:00 am Sunday Worship In- Person & on ZOOM

4:00 pm Anchorage Friends Meeting

Monday 7/1/24

3:30 pm Private Rental

6:30 pm Fireweed Sangha of Mindful

Living- Private Rental Visitors welcome

Tuesday 7/2/24

4:30 pm Forum Planning on Zoom

Wednesday 7/3/24

5:00 pm Connections Team Meeting

7:00 pm Building & Grounds Meeting

Thursday 7/4/24

Independence Day Office closed

Half Portion for July

[Planned Parenthood](#)

Anchorage Pride Parade: March with AUUF!

Saturday, June 29, 2024, 11:30 AM

Delaney Park Strip

The Anchorage Unitarian Universalist Fellowship is a Gold Sponsor of the Pride Parade this year, so let's show up in force to represent our UU values of love and justice!

Wear your “Side With Love” T-shirts and other festive UU gear, and come join us. If you forget your rainbow face paint and glitter, we’ve got you covered! We’ll meet up at 11:15 AM at the Parade starting point – more details to come in future announcements.

Any questions, please contact Becca Bernard at 907-244-3988 or Gwen Perry Crawford at 907-360-7209. A huge thank you to the Alliance for covering the cost of our participation in this joyful community event!



The Forum In person & on Zoom 9:00 am Sunday, June 30,
*A Life with Vic Fischer—Reflections On Statesmanship
and Public Policy with Jane Angvik*

The Forum

9:00 am Sunday, June 30, 2024

Notes from the Forum

- This **Sunday, June 30**, our speaker at the Forum will be **Jane Angvik, in-person** at the Fellowship (as well as on Zoom for those who can’t make it there). She will be speaking about “A Life with Vic Fischer—Reflections on Statesmanship and Public Policy.” Vic Fischer, her husband of 42 years, would have been 100 last month. Jane has been a public servant and leader in our community for five decades.

- Also, our speakers from last Sunday, and our Social Action committee, wanted to remind everyone that the World Refugee Day event is happening **Thursday, June 27, from 4:00-7:30 p.m.** at the Grow North Farm, 3601 Mountain View Drive.

[Click here to join on Zoom.](#)

[Click here for Speaker's bio.](#)

AUUF Pride Fashion Show

Sunday Worship, JUNE 30, 2024 11 AM

Participants please arrive by 10:45 am to fill out a fashion description card for our Emcee.



Show your life affirming identity!

Strut the runway!

Share your authenticity!

It's all part of our LGBTQ+ Affirming Worship!

**ANCHORAGE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST
FELLOWSHIP**

**2824 EAST 18TH AVENUE
www.AnchorageUUF.org**

Sunday Worship

Live at AUUF & on Zoom

11:00 am Sunday, June 30, 2024

[Click here to join on Zoom.](#)

Upcoming Worship Services, Sundays at 11 am

Here's what's coming up for Worship for the next 5 Sundays. We don't have Soul Matters themes in July and August so we've got quite a selection!

June 30, 11 am, In-person & Zoom

Pride Fashion Show

Rev. Lise, C. Thomas, D. Arashiro

Come dressed authentically as yourself in whatever way you'd like, whether you strut your stuff or not. Rainbow colors are encouraged but not required. We'll also talk a little bit of Pride history.

July 7, 2024, 11 am, In-person and Zoom

World Forgiveness Day

Michele Champion, Lauren Rench

July 7 is World Forgiveness Day. Michele and Lauren will propose a scenario for forgiveness—what would you do? How does forgiveness heal? Who has the right to forgive? What do our UU values teach us about forgiveness?

July 14, 11 am, In-person & Zoom

Trans People Belong Here!

Becca Bernard, Maribeth Snell

Rebecca Bernard, will share how our values call us to learn about and advocate for trans folks. She'll look at this through the lens of our newly named UU value of "Pluralism."

July 21, 11 am, In-person & Zoom

Soap Box Sunday

Barb Clark

Come share what's important to you! Barb Clark will facilitate this opportunity for AUUF folks to get on their "Soap Box" and briefly share their passions and concerns.

July 28, 11 am, In-person and Zoom

Spiritual Dimensions of Elvis

Dennis Arashiro, Michele Champion

Who knew that Dennis was such a big Elvis fan? He'll share the important things he's learned from Elvis over the years.

Staff Vacations

Hi Everyone,

Rev Lise is going on a hiking trip in Northern California for the month of July. If you have a pastoral care concern, please contact the office and Peggy will get you connected to our Care Team or Ruth Greenwood or Rebecca Bernard who will be available for emergencies. You can also email ShareTheCare@AnchorageUUF.org.

Hi Everyone,

Kelly Spring here, I am taking an extended vacation June 27- July 20. While I am out the website will not be updated, and Peggy will publish a simple TAOF July 11, in two weeks, after tomorrow's edition comes out. Deadline for the July 11 edition of TAOF will be July 9th. Sunday Services will occur as normal. You can check the [AUUF calendar](#) for more information & the [Sunday Services/ Speaker's bio page](#). Thanks for your understanding. TAOF will resume weekly publishing on July 25.

OMGosh! Peace Camp is so much fun!

I got back from time with family in Oregon last week, and this week is all about Peace Camp (and getting ready for my July hiking trip). Along with Michele Champion, our teen counselor Nora Houston, and some assists from Nelson, I'm working and playing with the middle school group—they recently named themselves the 'Peaceful Frogs' in honor of their green baseball caps. (Every age group at Peace Camp gets their own color baseball camp. Teachers/helpers get purple.) So far, we've ridden our bikes every day, and plan to continue that mixed in with a hike. We've made survival bracelets (google it ?), put up a variety of tents (including tarp shelters), we made trail mix and are going to experiment with a variety of camp foods, we're learning about Leave No Trace and 10 million (okay, maybe it's 28) things you can do with a bandana. We have a great group of kids and if you can, stop by and just check out all that's going on at the Fellowship this week. I'll try to post some photos on our FB page.

Last week, in addition to celebrating Nelson's mom with family and friends (she died in February), I also attended GA virtually with my friend Tracy in Portland. Our big push was to attend the business meetings because there was a lot of discussion about Article 2 of

our UUA bylaws, and the revamping of our principles into values. We discussed a series of amendments to Article 2, but generally folks liked the most recent revision as it was. Still, it was a hard conversation because we UUs value our 7 (or 8) principles and how they have represented us so well since the 1980s. Others saw the importance of renewing our mode of presentation—talking about values and even having a graphic representation was seen as a way to bring our content into our current times. Fortunately, some of our most valued phrases from our principles have been incorporated into the description of our values or elsewhere in Article 2. We voted on Saturday and our new version of Article 2 passed with 80% of the vote.

This is going to be a big change in how we identify ourselves, and understandably many of us will grieve for what was. I hope you'll talk to me about how you feel—sad, happy, confused, whatever it may be. And, this change also states to the world what we always say—we are a non-creedal movement. Sharing in common how we treat one another and our interdependent web with dignity and worth is more important than having the exact same belief statement. [Here's the most recent link to our new Article 2.](#) I hope you'll check it out.

Finally, I wanted to remind you all that I'll be going on a hiking trip in Northern California for the month of July. If you have a pastoral care concern, please contact the office and Peggy will get you connected to our Care Team or Ruth Greenwood or Rebecca Bernard who will be available for emergencies. You can also email ShareTheCare@AnchorageUUF.org.

Have a great month everyone!
Blessings, Rev. Lise

Clean Carpets - We need your help!

Our carpets need cleaning, and this coming holiday week is a perfect time to do it! We have Allen Rapid Dry Carpet Cleaning coming on Tuesday morning, July 2. Everyone's assistance on Sunday after the 11am service can help make the preparation of stacking chairs and moving couches and furniture go faster. Please plan on staying (or coming)!

We'll move everything back on Friday, beginning at 10am.

Come join us for an opportunity to exercise on behalf of your congregation!

Please contact Peggy Robinson in the office if you know youth who would be willing to help and earn a little money.

WhaleCoast Thanks and Update

Thank you to all the volunteers that made our June WhaleCoast hosting so successful! We made \$13,220 by providing housing and a banquet for the 33 guests and 2 coordinators. With so many members and friends helping and working together, it is such a successful financial and relationship-building activity!

The July tour is a slightly smaller event, as Anchorage is in the middle of their tour. Guests will come on the train from Denali during the evening of July 24, sightsee in Anchorage on the 25th, have our banquet that evening, and then fly out to Sitka the next morning. We are

still looking for a few more hosts for the nights of July 24 and 25. Please contact Peggy Robinson at whalecoast@anchorageuuf.org or the office if you are interested in hosting. Mel Langdon will be contacting everyone who has already signed up to confirm your availability.

Unfortunately, Covid did infect some of the June tour participants and 1 host, as it did the last few years too. Maya is encouraging everyone on the tour to use masks when inside or near others. We are encouraging all the hosts to do the same, in your home, car, and other enclosed locations. We plan on having the banquet outside again.

Peggy

Two pilgrimages, two powerful journeys, Join us Fall 2024

Registration is now open for two Fall 2024 Living Legacy Pilgrimages!

The 2024 election season will be upon us before we know it. As you prepare for the outcome, come be inspired by the incredible work that happened and is still happening in Mississippi. Join us October 15-20, for 6 days and 5 nights in Memphis, the Mississippi Delta, Jackson, Philadelphia, Meridian, and Hattiesburg to learn stories of Freedom Summer, the Freedom Rides, the music and activism of B.B. King, and powerful racial justice efforts that arose after tragedy and resistance. Registration is open now! Learn more and register at [2024 Mississippi Living Legacy Pilgrimage](#).

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[Click here to read more.](#)

July 2024 HALF PORTION FOR SOCIAL ACTION: Planned Parenthood

Planned Parenthood is the nation's leading provider and advocate of high-quality, affordable sexual and reproductive health care for all people, as well as the nation's largest provider of sex education. Planned Parenthood is made up of many separate non-profit organizations across the country. While these organizations are tied by a central mission — to protect access to sexual and reproductive health care and education, no matter what — they are separate entities.

Go to anchorageuuf.org
Click on the Half-Portion note or Donate/ Pay
at the bottom of the home page.

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Director of Religious Exploration,

Our new DRE will start August 1, 2024. Please contact Rev. Lise in the mean time.

Connections@AnchorageUUF.org

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

Connect with us



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diverse beliefs,
common purpose.

Today At Our Fellowship

Friday, July 5, 2024

This Weekend @ AUUF

Saturday 7/6/24

8:30-10:30 am AA Slap Happy Group

Sunday 7/7/24

9:00 am The Forum In- Person & on ZOOM

11:00 am Sunday Worship In- Person & on ZOOM

4:00 pm Anchorage Friends Meeting

Half Portion for July
Planned Parenthood

Monday 7/8/24

3:30 pm Private Rental

6:30 pm Fireweed Sangha of Mindful
Living- Private Rental Visitors welcome

Tuesday 7/9/24

2:00 pm Hungry Book Club

Wednesday 7/10/24

6:00 pm Gentle Yoga - Free, RSVP
907-250-5891

Thursday 7/11/24

1:30 pm HR Committee Meeting - Zoom
5:30 pm CYRE Team Meeting - Zoom &
Upstairs Library.
7:00 pm Private Rental

The Forum

9:00 am Sunday, July 7, 2024

Climate Change

• This Sunday's 9:00 a.m. **Forum, in person** at the Fellowship (and **Zoomed** for those who cannot make it in person) will feature **UAA Professors Travis Rector and Paola Banchemo**, talking about "**How to Have Meaningful and Productive Discussion on Climate Change**." If you have doubts about the concerns or concerns about the doubters, this should be an excellent, understandable conversation about climate change with two professors who have co-written chapters for a new book addressing climate change.

Dr. Travis Rector is a professor of physics and astronomy at the University of Alaska

Anchorage. Like many scientists, Dr. Rector has become alarmed by danger of climate change, and in recent years he has focused much of his work on helping people understand the causes, consequences, and solutions for climate change. Recently, he and his wife, **UAA Journalism Professor Paola Banchero**, have co-written two chapters on communication for a new book called "[Climate Change for Astronomers](#)."

[Click here to join on Zoom.](#)

[Click here for Speaker's bio.](#)

Sunday Worship

Live at AUUF & on Zoom

11:00 am Sunday, July 7, 2024

World Forgiveness Day, with Michele Champion and Lauren Rench

Michele and Lauren will propose a scenario for forgiveness—what would you do? How does forgiveness heal? Who has the right to forgive? What do our UU values teach us about forgiveness?

[Click here to join on Zoom.](#)

Upcoming Worship Services, Sundays at 11 am

July 14, 11 am, In-person & Zoom

Trans People Belong Here! with Becca Bernard and Maribeth Snell

Rebecca Bernard, will share how our values call us to learn about and advocate for trans folks. She'll look at this through the lens of our newly named UU value of "Pluralism."

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Spiritual Dimensions of Elvis, with Dennis Arashiro and Michele Champion

Who knew that Dennis was such a big Elvis fan? He'll share the important things he's learned from Elvis over the years.

Gentle Yoga Classes Next Week - Free!

All the Alaskan summer daylight is awesome. Yet the dynamic "Go, Go, go" energy of summer activities can pull us out of balance- mentally and physically.

Please join yoga teacher Kylara Hollingsworth RYT, for a cooling and nourishing gentle yoga practice next week. Please RSVP to 907-250-5891

7/10 Wed. 6:00 pm - 7:15 pm

Come to one or both classes. Wear loose and comfortable clothing to move in. If you have them - please bring a yoga mat, several blankets that can stack firmly, and two yoga blocks.

These free classes at AUUF are appropriate for people who are able to get up and down from the floor, are not in acute pain. If you are uncertain if they can work for you be sure to reach out to Kylara at the number above.

Kylara is trained in trauma-informed Amrita yoga, as well as certified in Kripalu and Iyengar influenced Hatha yoga. She has over 30 years experience teaching yoga and has worked with students of all ages. Kylara and her family are very grateful for the kindness of the people of the AUUF Care team - who have been providing meals to Joyce Laine (Kylara's mom) during her recovery process. Please accept these classes as gifts of appreciation or simply as encouragement to take some time for your own self care in whatever form that works for you.

Clean Carpets - Thank You For The Help!

Our carpets are all shampooed and dried, with the furniture back on them. The area rugs are being shampooed off site and will be returned in a few weeks. Thanks to Allen Rapid Dry Carpet Cleaning for their professional job and complimentary cleaning of all the entry walk-off rugs. The Alliance is paying for most of the cost - thank you. This could not have been done without the volunteer heavy lifting of Rob, Judy, Annie, Don C, David & Irene, Berta, Kalen, and Mel on Monday and/or Friday! Thanks also to everyone who stayed after the service on Sunday to clear the Sanctuary. Peggy

The Library - A Great Meeting Space and ???

We've been using the library frequently for meeting space, whether small private conversations or a committee meeting or book club. What it hasn't been used much for is as a lending library. I think more books come into it as donations than get checked out for reading. Rev. Lise and I have talked about culling the books for it to be more of our reference library with a UU/religion and church management focus. Books that don't fit into that vision would be given away (or for a donation) so there is space to put the books on the shelves that we want to keep and use. What do you think? Are you willing to help with this endeavor? Let's meet this Sunday at 12:15 in the library for a discussion. Peggy

Staff Vacations

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Kelly Spring is taking an extended vacation June 27- July 20. The website will not be updated, but Peggy will publish a simple TAOF every week. Please send any announcements directly to the office at admin@anchorageuuf.org. You can check the [AUUF calendar](#) for more information & the [Sunday Services/ Speaker's bio page](#). The regular TAOF will resume publishing on July 25.

WhaleCoast Update

The upcoming July tour is a slightly smaller event, as Anchorage is in the middle of their tour. Guests will come on the train from Denali during the evening of July 24, sightsee in Anchorage on the 25th, have our banquet that evening, and then fly out to Sitka the next morning. This time some of the guests will be staying in local hotels or private B&B's, and we will provide transportation for them since they don't have a host. If you have not been contacted by Mel Langdon or myself about being able to provide additional driving and are available, please let me know. Jane Grey would love to know what food you can bring for the banquet, so please send her an email or text.

Unfortunately, Covid did infect some of the June tour participants and 1 host, as it did the last few years too. Maya is encouraging everyone on the tour to use masks when inside or near others, including on their way up to Alaska. We are encouraging all the hosts to do the same, in your home, car, and other enclosed locations. We plan on having the banquet outside again.

Thanks for your support of this important fundraiser! Peggy

Two pilgrimages, two powerful journeys, Join us Fall 2024

Registration is now open for two Fall 2024 Living Legacy Pilgrimages!

The 2024 election season will be upon us before we know it. As you prepare for the outcome, come be inspired by the incredible work that happened and is still happening in Mississippi. Join us October 15-20, for 6 days and 5 nights in Memphis, the Mississippi Delta, Jackson, Philadelphia, Meridian, and Hattiesburg to learn stories of Freedom Summer, the Freedom Rides, the music and activism of B.B. King, and powerful racial justice efforts that arose after tragedy and resistance. Registration is open now! Learn more and register at [2024 Mississippi Living Legacy Pilgrimage](#).

Alabama Living Legacy Pilgrimage

And regardless of the 2024 election outcome, you'll find connection with others and inspiration on the November 13-17 journey through Alabama. We'll visit Birmingham, Montgomery, and Selma on this 5-day/4-night pilgrimage focused on history and healing. Registration is open now! Learn more and register at [2024 Alabama Civil Rights Pilgrimage](#).

[Click here to read more.](#)

July 2024
HALF PORTION FOR SOCIAL ACTION:
Planned Parenthood

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Today At Our Fellowship
Thursday, July 11, 2024

This Weekend @ AUUF

Friday, 7/12/24

9:30-11:15 Private Rental

12-1:30 Free Thinkers, In-Person

Saturday 7/13/24

8:30-10:30 am AA Slap Happy Group

1:00-2:15 pm Gentle Yoga Free, RSVP
907-250-5891

Sunday 7/14/24

9:00 am The Forum - On ZOOM Only -
"ASD Academies - How a New Program
Will Reshape ASD High School
Education."

11:00 am Sunday Worship In- Person &
on ZOOM - "Love Is at the Center"

12:30-2:00 The Alliance Meeting - In
Upstairs Library

1:30-2:30 Worship Associate Meeting- on
Zoom

4:00 pm Anchorage Friends Meeting

Monday 7/15/24

11:00-12:30 Becca's Ordination Planning
Meeting - Upstairs Library

3:30 pm Private Rental - Room 5

4:00 pm Private Rental - Social Room

6:30 pm Fireweed Sangha of Mindful
Living- Private Rental - Room 5

Tuesday 7/16/24

5:30-7:00 Finance Committee Meeting -
on Zoom?

Wednesday 7/17/24

6:00-7:30 Private Rental - Becca

Thursday 7/18/24

6:30 pm Board Meeting - Social Room

7:00 pm Private Rental

**Half Portion for July
Planned Parenthood**

The Forum -

9:00 am Sunday, July 14, 2024 - Zoom Only

***"Academies of Anchorage—How A New Program Will Reshape ASD
High School Education."***

Speakers are Cindy Chaput and Misha Chakraborty.

Cindy Chaput is the College, Career, and Life Ready Director for the Anchorage School District. An Alaskan resident for 28 years, Cindy has spent three decades in the education sector, gaining valuable experience in administration and counseling across various schools in the Anchorage School District. In her current role, she supports the expanding technical and real-world opportunities for ALL students, bridging the gap between education and the workforce through the Academies of Anchorage initiative.

Misha Chakraborty has been in academia for over 15 years and is currently with United Way, Anchorage.. She completed her Ph.D. and Postdoctoral degree at Texas A & M, College Station. She taught higher education classes at University of Houston, Texas A & M University system, Alaska Pacific University, and TAMU & UAF extension.

[Click here to join on Zoom.](#)

[Click here for Speaker's bio.](#)

Sunday Worship

Live at AUUF & on Zoom - 11:00 am Sunday, July 14, 2024

"Love Is at the Center" with Becca Bernard, Affiliated Community Minister, and Maribeth Snell, Worship Associate.

The Unitarian Universalist movement has just voted to put Love at the center of faith, explicitly, for the first time. What does this mean for our movement, our congregations, and each of us as individuals? What does putting Love at the center call on each of us to do?

[Click here to join on Zoom.](#)

Upcoming Worship Services, Sundays at 11 am

July 21, 11 am, In-person & Zoom

Soap Box Sunday with Barb Clark

Come share what's important to you! Barb Clark will facilitate this opportunity for AUUF folks to get on their "Soap Box" and briefly share their passions and concerns.

July 28, 11 am, In-person and Zoom

Spiritual Dimensions of Elvis, with Dennis Arashiro and Michele Champion

Who knew that Dennis was such a big Elvis fan? He'll share the important things he's learned from Elvis over the years.

New Playground Equipment Has Arrived!

You may have notice the 4 stacks of playground mat tiles at the south end of the parking lot. The play equipment itself is stored in Kalen's garage. Don Antrobus is meeting with others to finalize the planning for the installation of it and movement of the shed. There will be a work party sometime in August, so

stay tuned for more information. This playground addition is in memory of our former Board President Wendy Romberg, who suddenly died in 2019.

Pledge Statements Coming in Your Inbox

Check your inbox for a statement from the office. Peggy is sending out a brief statement on Friday that lists what you have pledged for this current fiscal year that began July 1st (FY25) and if you have made any payments towards it already.

If your records are different or you want to pledge a different amount, please contact the office. If you have not pledged yet but want to, please contact the office or turn in a pledge form found at the Welcome table or on the website.

Your fiscal support of AUUF, along with your volunteer efforts, are critical to the health and well-being of our congregation and our mission!

Gentle Yoga Class Saturday, July 13, 1-2:15pm Free!

You are invited to join yoga teacher Kylara Hollingsworth RYT, for a cooling and nourishing gentle yoga practice this Saturday. Please RSVP to 907-250-5891. This free class at AUUF is appropriate for people who are able to get up and down from the floor and are not in acute pain.

Ky and her family are very grateful for the kindness of the people of the AUUF Care team - who have been providing meals to [Joyce Laine](#) (Ky's mom) during her recovery process. Please accept this class as a gift of appreciation or simply as encouragement to take some time for your own self care in whatever form that works for you.

Wear loose and comfortable clothing to move in. If you have them - please bring a yoga mat, several blankets that can stack firmly, and two yoga blocks.

WhaleCoast Update - Food Needed!

Our guests will be having dinner with us on Thursday night, July 25. Several of them are vegetarian, so we especially need dinner food to meet their needs. Please contact Jane Gray to let her know what you are bringing or for ideas. janeellengray@gmail.com. Food needs to be brought by 5pm, and you are welcome to stay for socializing and dinner.

We'll be setting up the tables and chairs starting around 2pm. Hopefully the

weather will cooperate to eat outside. If you are available, we can use the help!

Share-the-Care Needs More Volunteers to Help Congregants in Need!

There has been an increased number of people at AUUF who could use a hand with meals, rides, or just friendly visits. Our Share-the-Care base of volunteers could use more people to fill these needs. Please consider taking some time to keep ours a caring community. You can email Sharethecare@anchorageuuf.org or contact the office to get connected with our Care Team. Donna Massey is coordinating.

The Library - A Great Meeting Space and Less Books - An Update

A table full of books, and a few CD's, await everyone coming into the upstairs lobby. We started culling the library to focus on religious and social justice books and church management. These are free for the taking, with a jar for donations if you so desire. We even have some tote bags to take to carry your finds! More books will be coming during the month, so check back frequently.

Staff Vacations

Rev Lise is on a hiking trip in Northern California for the month of July. If you have a pastoral care concern, please contact the office and Peggy will get you connected to our Care Team.

Kelly Spring is taking an extended vacation June 27- July 20. The website will not be updated, but Peggy is publishing a simple TAOF every week. Please send any announcements directly to the office at admin@anchorageuuf.org. You can check the [AUUF calendar](#) for more information & the [Sunday Services/ Speaker's bio page](#). The regular TAOF will resume publishing on July 25.

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Today At Our Fellowship Thursday, July 18, 2024

This Weekend @ AUUF

Friday, 7/19/24

9:30-11:15 Private Rental

12-1:30 Free Thinkers, In-Person

Saturday 7/20/24

8:30-10:30 am AA Slap Happy Group

Sunday 7/21/24

9:00 am **The Forum** - In-Person & On ZOOM - "*The Humanitarian Crisis in Gaza: A Conversation*," will be presented by Kate McClellan.

11:00 am **Sunday Worship** In- Person & on ZOOM - "Soap Box Sunday" with Worship Associate Barb Clark

4:00 pm Anchorage Friends Meeting

Monday 7/22/24

3:30 pm Private Rental - Room 5

6:30 pm Fireweed Sangha of Mindful Living- Private Rental - Room 5

Tuesday 7/23/24

Wednesday 7/24/24

Thursday 7/25/24

2:00 pm WhaleCoast Banquet Setup - hopefully outside

5:00 pm WhaleCoast Guests begin arriving for Banquet. Food arrives by now.

7:00 pm Banquet over. Guests leave.

**Half Portion for July
Planned Parenthood**

The Forum -

9:00 am Sunday, July 21, 2024 - Live at AUUF & on Zoom

***"The Humanitarian Crisis in Gaza: A Conversation,"* will be presented by
Kate McClellan.**

There will be a showing of a video that aired on Democracy Now! featuring two trauma surgeons who returning from volunteering their services to victims in Gaza, followed by Q&A and discussion. The video and the program topic deal with sensitive and tough subject matter relating to ongoing controversies, largely from a particular perspective rather than trying to address "all sides" or a complete political and historical context in one program. But as with any Forum program, we respect a diversity of viewpoints and trust

that as always we will listen to one another with courtesy and respect even when we disagree.

[Click here to join on Zoom.](#)

[Click here for Speaker's bio.](#)

Upcoming Forum, Sunday at 9am

July 28, will be Zoom-only, as we welcome Betsy Baker, board member of the new Anchorage nonprofit In Our Backyard, to speak about the *"Tiny Shelter Pilot Project for Interim Housing of Homeless Seniors."* Join us!

Sunday Worship

Live at AUUF & on Zoom - 11:00 am Sunday, July 14, 2024

"Soap Box Sunday" with Worship Associate Barb Clark

Come share what's important to you! Barb Clark will facilitate this opportunity for AUUF folks to get on their "Soap Box" and briefly share their passions and concerns.

[Click here to join on Zoom.](#)

Upcoming Worship Services, Sundays at 11 am

July 28, 11 am, In-person and Zoom

Spiritual Dimensions of Elvis, with Dennis Arashiro and Michele Champion

Who knew that Dennis was such a big Elvis fan? He'll share the important things he's learned from Elvis over the years.

WhaleCoast Update - Food Needed!

Our 40 guests will be having dinner with us on Thursday night, July 25. Several of them are vegetarian, so we especially need dinner food to meet their needs. Please contact Jane Gray to let her know what you are bringing or for ideas. janeellengray@gmail.com. Food needs to be brought by 5pm, and you are welcome to stay for socializing and dinner.

We'll be setting up the tables and chairs starting around 2pm. Hopefully the weather will cooperate to eat outside. If you are available, we can use the help!

A Quick Quiz

- What is speed limit on East 16th and 20th Streets in Airport Heights?

- What is the speed limit on the internal streets in Airport Heights?
- Did you know that the Airport Heights Community Council requested legislative funds for traffic calming?

Of course, none of us would purposely speed and endanger anyone on our way to AUUF, but it is easy to be focused on getting here on time for a service or meeting. Please leave a few minutes earlier and watch your speedometer. Our neighbors will appreciate it!

(Answers: 25 mph, 20 mph, the legislature approved the funds but the governor vetoed them.)

The Death Penalty Photography Project - 20+ Year Photo Documentary of the US Death Penalty

Scott Langley has documented with his photos over 20 years of the death penalty in the United States. (<https://deathpenaltyphoto.org/>) He is sharing some of his work this coming Sunday at 12:00 noon at the First United Methodist Church. They are requesting that you preregister at <https://www.firstumcanchorage.org/>. Lunch is available to purchase.

Share-the-Care Needs More Volunteers to Help Congregants in Need!

There has been an increased number of people at AUUF who could use a hand with meals, rides, or just friendly visits. Our Share-the-Care base of volunteers could use more people to fill these needs. Please consider taking some time to keep ours a caring community. You can email Sharethecare@anchorageuuf.org or contact the office to get connected with our Care Team. Donna Massey is coordinating.

The Library - A Great Meeting Space

After the first attempt at culling books, we have distributed over 2 large boxes of books to new owners! Thank you for those who also contributed a donation. The project could use a couple of volunteers with library collection and UU/religious history knowledge to help with the curation. Please contact Peggy in the office for more information.

Staff Vacations

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Today At Our Fellowship
Thursday, July 25, 2024

This Weekend @ AUUF

Thursday 7/25/24

2:00 - 8:00 pm Whalecoast set up & banquet. Guests arrive at 5:15 pm.

Friday 7/26/24

12:00-1:30 pm Freethinkers, In-Person

Saturday 7/27/24

8:30-10:30 am AA Slap Happy Group

Sunday 7/28/24

9:00 am The Forum ONLY on ZOOM -

11:00 am Sunday Worship In- Person & on ZOOM

4:00 pm Anchorage Friends Meeting

Monday 7/29/24

6:30 pm Fireweed Sangha of Mindful Living- Private Rental - Room 5

Tuesday 7/30/24

Wednesday 7/31/24

Thursday 8/1/24

Half Portion for July
[Planned Parenthood](#)



The Forum 9:00 am Sunday July 28, 2024 Only on Zoom
Tiny Shelter Pilot Project for Interim Housing of Homeless Seniors
Betsy Baker, In Our Backyard

The Forum

9:00 am Sunday, July 28, 2024 ONLY on Zoom

This week's speaker at the fourth Sunday **Zoom-only Forum** will be **Betsy Baker**, from the Board of the new nonprofit "In Our Backyard," talking with us about a significant homegrown pilot project to address one piece of our community's homeless issues. It involves **using "tiny shelters" for interim housing of homeless seniors**. They have a lot of community support already and are looking for more.

Next week, on **Sunday August 4**, we will be **in-person** at the Fellowship, and as always on Zoom for those who can't make it. Our speaker will be **award-winning photographer and human rights activist Scott Langley**, who is in Anchorage for the Alaskans Against the **Death Penalty's** annual Fish Fry. It would be great to get back to having good in-person attendance to strengthen our sense of community and fellowship.

For those of you who missed last Sunday's presentation on the **humanitarian crisis in Gaza** and wish to catch it on the podcast please note that a key part of it was a **30-minute video from Democracy Now!** that you can **access through the Show Notes** Ken has posted accompanying the **podcast** and watch it as you listen or separately. It adds a great deal to see and not only hear it, but it is a difficult subject and can be hard to watch.

[Click here to join on Zoom.](#)

[Click here for Speaker's bio.](#)



Sunday Worship 11:00 am Sunday July 28, 2024 In person & on Zoom
Spiritual Dimensions of Elvis
Dennis Arashiro and Michele Champion

Sunday Worship

11:00 am Sunday, July 28, 2024 Live at AUUF & on Zoom

[Click here to join on Zoom.](#)



Fall Frolic 2024-2025

The registration for Fall Frolic 2024-2025 is now open. The plan for this year includes many traditions like “The Talent Show” and “Moon Lanterns”. We are also open to including new workshops and activities. If you have ideas to share or would like to lead a workshop, please contact Annie Belts, 907-440-6393. Finally, if you have any interest in cooking or helping with meal planning, please contact Annie Belts. Please register as soon as possible and note that the registration cut off this year is September 15th. The deadline ensures we have enough time to shop for food and materials. We are excited to see everyone Sept 27-29th at King’s Lake in Wasilla.

July 2024

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Today At Our Fellowship
Thursday, August 1, 2024

This Weekend @ AUUF

Thursday 8/1/24

Friday 8/2/24

12:00-1:30 pm Freethinkers, In-Person

Saturday 8/3/24

8:30-10:30 am AA Slap Happy Group

6:00 - 9:30 pm Private Rental

Sunday 8/4/24

9:00 am The Forum In- Person & on
ZOOM

11:00 am Sunday Worship In- Person &
on ZOOM

4:00 pm Anchorage Friends Meeting

Monday 8/5/24

6:30 pm Fireweed Sangha of Mindful
Living- Private Rental - Room 5

Tuesday 8/6/24

4:30 pm Forum Planning on Zoom

Wednesday 8/7/24

5:00 pm Connections Team Meeting

7:00 pm Buildings & Grounds Meetings

Thursday 8/8/24

5:30 pm CYRE Team Meeting

Half Portion for August

[Alaska Native Birthworkers
Community](#)



The Forum 9:00 am Sunday August 4, In person & on Zoom
*Documenting the Death Penalty in the US Through Photographs for
over 25 Years* with Scott Langley, Photographer and Human Rights
Activist

The Forum

In person & on Zoom

9:00 am Sunday, August 4, 2024

This week, on **Sunday August 4**, we will be **in-person** at the Fellowship, and as always on Zoom for those who can't make it. Our speaker will be **award-winning photographer and human rights activist Scott Langley**, who is in Anchorage for the Alaskans Against the **Death Penalty's** annual Fish Fry. It would be great to get back to having good in-person attendance to strengthen our sense of community and fellowship.

[Click here to join on Zoom.](#)

[Click here for Speaker's bio.](#)

Hope



Sunday Worship 11:00 am Sunday August 4, In person & on Zoom
Hope: Help or Hindrance?
UU Reverend Sarah Schurr, Lauren Rench Worship Associate

Sunday Worship

11:00 am Sunday, August 4, 2024 Live at AUUF & on Zoom

Worship Services for Early August

Our thematic Sundays which we get from our subscription to SoulMatters, won't start again until September. In the meantime, we'll continue to have lay-led services for the next two weeks until Rev. Lise is back in the pulpit. A big thank you to all our Worship Associates who have been leading worship this summer. It's a fabulous model of shared ministry which AUUF does so well!

Aug 4, 2024 11 am In-person and Zoom
Hope by Rev. Sarah Schurr
Lauren Rench, Worship Leader

Aug. 11, 2024 11 am In-person and Zoom
Meet the AUUF Alliance!
Alliance Members, Dennis Arashiro

[Click here to join on Zoom.](#)



(View coming down into Whitney Portal, CA July 2024. Lise's hike)

Minister's Message

Happy August everyone!

I hope your summer has been going well!

Starting August 1, I'm back in the office. I'll do my best to be present for my office hours which are Tues, Th and Fri from 11-3, or by appointment, but it will be a good idea to call ahead. Sometimes a meeting or pastoral visit pops up, but otherwise I'm looking forward to catching up with everyone as we all start to trickle in from our summer. I will be gone Aug. 9-11 for a Buddhist retreat, but otherwise I should be fairly easy to find.

One thing I'm really looking forward to is beginning work with our new Director of Religious Exploration (DRE), Jennifer Bluntach. She begins work virtually this month and then will be here in person on September 1! Hopefully some of you got to meet her when she visited Anchorage the last week of June. We will run her introductory article in TAOF again this month.

As we prepare for this upcoming year of fellowship, I'm thinking about how we can build resilience for the continuing political season as well as delve into our ethical and religious values for strength and modeling the kind of Beloved Community we'd like to create. It won't always be easy, but working in community, we can at least support one another with empathy and good humor.

We are lucky to have one another.

Blessings, Rev. Lise

Art Curtis

Dear Ones,

Some of you may have heard through the grapevine that AUUF's Minister Emeritus, Art Curtis, who served here from 1993-2001, died on June 8, 2024.

I had a chance to speak with his wife, Susan Lyden, right after I left for vacation. She wanted to let us know that Art had remembered his time here with much affection and joy, even though he lived in the Portland, OR area for the last 13 years of his life (he was 90 when he died). Regrettably, Art died of complications from Alzheimers and had also had several falls in recent years. Until then, he had an active retirement with loved ones nearby.

Susan told me she would be in contact when they decided on a public memorial time-- there will probably be a zoom option. In the meantime you can send cards to Susan Lyden, 143 Oswego Summit, Building #20, Lake Oswego, OR 97035.

I'm holding you all in love regarding this sad news.

Blessings, Rev. Lise



Fall Frolic 2024-2025

The registration for Fall Frolic 2024-2025 is now open. The plan for this year includes many traditions like "The Talent Show" and "Moon Lanterns". We are also open to including new workshops and activities. If you have ideas to share or would like to lead a workshop, please contact Annie Belts, 907-440-6393. Finally, if you

have any interest in cooking or helping with meal planning, please contact Annie Belts. Please register as soon as possible and note that the registration cut off this year is September 15th. The deadline ensures we have enough time to shop for food and materials. We are excited to see everyone Sept 27-29th at King's Lake in Wasilla.

[Fall Frolic 2024 Registration](#)

Share-the-Care Needs More Volunteers to Help Congregants in Need!

There has been an increased number of people at AUUF who could use a hand with meals, rides, or just friendly visits. Our Share-the-Care base of volunteers could use more people to fill these needs. Please consider taking some time to keep ours a caring community. You can email Sharethecare@anchorageuuf.org or contact the office to get connected with our Care Team. Donna Massey is coordinating.

The Library - A Great Meeting Space

After the first attempt at culling books, we have distributed over 2 large boxes of books to new owners! Thank you for those who also contributed a donation. The project could use a couple of volunteers with library collection and UU/religious history knowledge to help with the curation. Please contact Peggy in the office for more information.

Psychology survey from a student UU

Hello, UU family. My name is Bryant Moore. I'm a psychology student at Antioch University New England and have been a UU since 2017. I am now working on my dissertation and need adult participants to fill out a short survey at the link below. I am doing this study to develop a measure of wellbeing based on existential theory, a philosophy that focuses on things like a person's sense of meaning. For this research, I am looking at whether the measure of existential wellbeing is related to concerns people often have. You will be asked questions about physical, social, and psychological health, including your thoughts about mortality, isolation, meaning and purpose, depression, and anxiety. Participation is completely voluntary and may be discontinued at any time. It should take approximately 10-15 minutes. Your answers are anonymous, and I will not know who has participated or be able to link you with your answers. All information you provide will be kept secure. There is no compensation for participation, but I would greatly appreciate your help.

The Antioch University New England Institutional Review Board has approved this study. Should you have any questions about your rights as a participant, contact Dr. Kevin Lyness. He is the Chair of the Antioch University New England Human Research Committee (603)293-2149, klyness@antioch.edu. You may also contact Antioch University New England Provost, Dr. Shawn Fitzgerald, (603)283-2356, sfitzgerald3@antioch.edu.

If you have any questions about this study or participation, please contact Bryant Moore, mooredissertation@gmail.com. This study is being supervised by Dr. Kathi

Borden, kborden@antioch.edu.

I hope you will click the link below and help me complete my research project.

[Click here to do the survey.](#)

Thank you for your time and help.

August 2024
HALF PORTION FOR SOCIAL ACTION:
Alaska Native Birthworkers Community

Go to anchorageuuf.org
Click on the Half-Portion note or Donate/ Pay
at the bottom of the home page.
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ALASKA NATIVE BIRTHWORKERS COMMUNITY

*Dedicated to serving Native birthing families
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We are Alaska Native midwives, doulas, breastfeeding counselors and healers organizing to reclaim Indigenous birth practices, support families from preconception through postnatal care, and increase capacity for Indigenous birthworkers.



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- Grow a statewide network of trained Native birthworkers
- Collaborate with partners for systemic change to better support Native and rural birthing families

Contact us to connect about the services we offer, or to share about other ways that we can serve our Native birthing community!



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Collaborate with Partners for Systemic Change to Better Support Native and Rural Birthing Families

We recognize and acknowledge the many institutions, organizations, and individuals are working in Alaska to support Native and rural birthing families. We want to collaborate with you and do this together!

www.nativebirthworkers.org // nativebirthworker@gmail.com



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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
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Minister, Rev. Lise Adams Sherry, (she/ her) 907-248-3737 x2,
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Usually Monday - Tuesday & Thursday- Friday 11:00 am-3:00 pm.
Please call before coming.

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Dan Norton: AV Coordinator
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Director of Religious Exploration,
Our new DRE will start August 1, 2024. Please contact Rev. Lise in the mean time.

Connections@AnchorageUUF.org

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

Connect with us



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*diverse beliefs,
common purpose.*

Today At Our Fellowship
Thursday, August 8, 2024

This Weekend @ AUUF

Thursday 8/8/24

5:30 pm CYRE Team Meeting In Person
& on Zoom

Friday 8/9/24

12:00-1:30 pm Freethinkers, In-Person

Saturday 8/10/24

8:30-10:30 am AA Slap Happy Group
12:30 pm Early Parent Support Group
6:00 - 9:30 pm Private Rental

Sunday 8/11/24

9:00 am The Forum Only on ZOOM

11:00 am Sunday Worship In- Person &
on ZOOM

12:30-2:00 pm The Alliance- at AUUF

4:00 pm Anchorage Friends Meeting

Monday 8/12/24

6:30 pm Fireweed Sangha of Mindful
Living- Private Rental - Room 5

Tuesday 8/13/24

2-3:30 pm Hungry Book Club

Wednesday 8/14/24

6:00 pm Safer Congregations Team
Meeting

Thursday 8/15/24

6:30 pm Board of Directors Team
Meeting

Half Portion for August

[Alaska Native Birthworkers Community](#)



The Forum ONLY on Zoom

9:00 am Sunday, August 11, 2024

Alaska Woman Ascend: Helping Progressive Women Run, Vote & Win

Suzanne Little

The Forum

9:00 am Sunday, August 11, 2024 Only on Zoom

[Click here to join on Zoom.](#)

[Click here for Speaker's bio.](#)



Sunday Worship at AUUF & on Zoom

11:00 am Sunday, August 11, 2024

Sisterhood and Beyond: Meet The Alliance

Dennis Arashiro, Kalen Saxton and Carol Harris

Sunday Worship

11:00 am Sunday, August 11, 2024 Live at AUUF & on Zoom

[Click here to join on Zoom.](#)

Office Closed through August 21

Peggy is working at City Hall's Early Voting Site and then at a precinct through August 21, so the office is closed. She's checking emails and phone messages daily and will get back to you on the weekend. Sunday early afternoon is the best time to connect with in the office. Don't forget to vote in the Primary!



Thank you for a successful WhaleCoast fundraiser

We had wonderful host volunteers, both in their own home and supporting guests in other living accommodations. The banquets were able to be outside in nice weather, enjoying great food and entertainment. I really appreciate everyone who volunteered to provide an important part of our guests' Alaskan experience.

And a special thank you to Mel Langdon for helping with the organization and communications, and to Jane Gray for coordinating the banquets! Jane is leaving Alaska this fall, so we're looking for a couple of volunteers to take over the banquet

Peggy



Join us for Fire Pit Chat at AUUF

6:30-8 pm Thursday, Aug. 22nd

The AUUF Connections Team invites you to bring your favorite beverage and join us for some informal conversations around the AUUF fire pit. This is just one of the many ways we get to know one another at AUUF--new friends and old! We might also enjoy sharing "s'mores" and other light snacks. Tell your friends. If the weather turns foul, we can move inside. For more information, email connections@anchorageuuf.org

Art Curtis Obituary

I know many of you were saddened to hear of AUUF's Minister Emeritus', Art Curtis, death last week in this publication. Since then, a congregant has shared a link to his obituary.

[Click here for Art's obituary.](#)

If you'd like to send a card to his wife, Susan Lyden, her address is:

143 Oswego Summit, Building #20, Lake Oswego, OR 97035

Please take care, Rev. Lise

A message from Catholic Social Services: Family Disability Services Art Center seeking donations

Family Disability Services (FDS) supports children and adults with disabilities and strengthens families by providing individualized home and community-based services that promote dignity, respect, and self-advocacy.

The FDS staff are setting up a new art center at the office to help support our clients. We are collecting crayons, markers, scissors, pencils, colored pencils, rulers, construction paper, stencils, and anything that can help our clients create and express themselves! If you would like to donate, please drop off items at Catholic Social Services main center at 4600 Debarr Road between 9:00 am-5:00 pm, Monday-Friday.



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[Fall Frolic 2024 Registration](#)

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Collaborate with Partners for Systemic Change to Better Support Native and Rural Birthing Families

We recognize and acknowledge the many institutions, organizations, and individuals are working in Alaska to support Native and rural birthing families. We want to collaborate with you and do this together!



www.nativebirthworkers.org // nativebirthworker@gmail.com



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Connect with us



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*diverse beliefs,
common purpose.*

Today At Our Fellowship
Thursday, August 15, 2024

This Weekend @ AUUF

Thursday 8/15/24

6:30 pm Board of Directors Team Meeting

Friday 8/16/24

8:15-11:15 am Music Together Mountain Song
12:00-1:30 pm Freethinkers, In-Person

Saturday 8/17/24

8:30-10:30 am AA Slap Happy Group
10:30-12:45 pm Music Together Mountain Song
1:30-2:30 pm Private Rental
3:00-7:00 pm Japanese American Citizen's League

Sunday 8/18/24

9:00 am The Forum In- Person & on ZOOM

11:00 am Sunday Worship In- Person & on ZOOM

4:00 pm Anchorage Friends Meeting

Monday 8/19/24

3:30-6:00 pm Private Rental
6:30 pm Fireweed Sangha of Mindful Living- Private Rental - Room 5

Tuesday 8/20/24

Primary Election Day

Wednesday 8/21/24

3:15-5:15 pm Private Rental

Thursday 8/22/24

6:30 pm Fire Pit Chat

Half Portion for August

[Alaska Native Birthworkers Community](#)



The Forum 9:00 AM Sunday August 18th

IN PERSON & on Zoom

The Pioneering Photography of Bradford Washburn

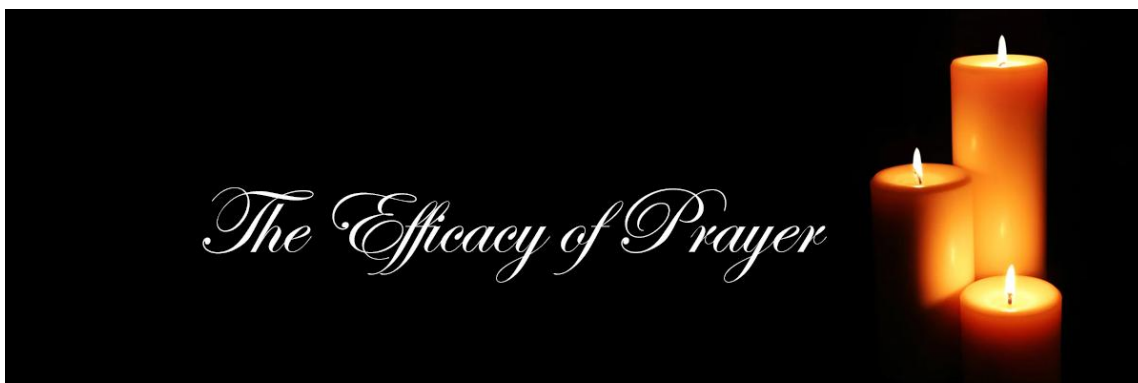
John Hagen, Anchorage Museum

The Forum

9:00 am Sunday, August 18, 2024 Live at AUUF & on Zoom

[Click here to join on Zoom.](#)

[Click here for Speaker's bio.](#)



Sunday Worship IN PERSON & on Zoom

11:00 AM Sunday August 18th

The Efficacy of Prayer

Rev. Lise Sherry & Renee Frost

Sunday Worship

11:00 am Sunday, August 18, 2024 Live at AUUF & on Zoom

[Click here to join on Zoom.](#)

Join us for Fire Pit Chat at AUUF

6:30-8 pm Thursday, Aug. 22nd



The AUUF Connections Team invites you to bring your favorite beverage and join us for some informal conversations around the AUUF fire pit. This is just one of the many ways we get to know one another at AUUF--new friends and old! We might also enjoy sharing "s'mores" and other light snacks. Tell your friends. If the weather turns foul, we can move inside. For more information, email connections@anchorageuuf.org

Choir Returns 8/29!

Choir rehearsals will resume on Thursday 8/29 at 6:30! All experience levels and voice types are welcome. Come sing and have fun! Email any related questions to Esme at music@anchorageuuf.org.

Volunteer Fair

Sunday, September 15th will be a "Volunteer Fair" at AUUF to recruit folks to the various teams/committees at AUUF. Please be sure that someone from your team is there to tell folks about your team and answer any questions. Flyers or half-sheets with info about your team are encouraged to hand out to folks perusing. Ideally, booths will be set up between the services and after the 11am service. Please contact connections@anchorageuuf.org with questions.

We look forward to seeing you there!
- Connections Team

An Easy Social Action Activity

Please join the Anti-Racism team in the social room after the 11:00 service on Sunday August 25th to help stuff envelopes for the ACLU Prison Project. Each month, the ACLU sends out a newsletter to individuals who are incarcerated in Alaska prisons, giving them important updated legal information as well as some human interest items. This not only helps these individuals remain informed but also let's them know they are not forgotten. Who doesn't like to get mail, right? There will be a small group of us there for a couple of hours. Please consider joining us, for as little time or as long as you like.

Thanks.

(Michele Champion, 907-341-9249).

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Save the date!

Fall Frolic

Sept. 27-29

King's Lake



Fall Frolic 2024-2025

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[Fall Frolic 2024 Registration](#)

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Please call before coming.

Jennifer Bluntach (she/her) Director of Religious Exploration,
DRE@anchorageuuf.org
Working remotely the month of August 2024 and can be reached
at jenniferbluntach@gmail.com.

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

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Today At Our Fellowship
Thursday, August 22, 2024

This Weekend @ AUUF

Thursday 8/22/24

6:30 pm Fire Pit Chat- All are welcome!

Friday 8/23/24

8:15-11:15 am Music Together Mountain
Song

12:00-2:00 pm Freethinkers, In-Person

Saturday 8/24/24

8:30-10:30 am AA Slap Happy Group

10:30-12:45 pm Music Together Mountain
Song

1:30-3:30 pm Private Rental

Sunday 8/25/24

9:00 am The Forum -Only on ZOOM

11:00 am Sunday Worship In- Person &
on ZOOM

4:00 pm Anchorage Friends Meeting

Monday 8/26/24

3:30-6:00 pm Private Rental

6:30 pm Fireweed Sangha of Mindful

Living- Private Rental - Room 5

Tuesday 8/27/24

Wednesday 8/28/24

3:15-5:15 pm Private Rental

Thursday 8/29/24

6:30 pm Choir Practice

Half Portion for August

[Alaska Native Birthworkers Community](#)



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6:30-8 pm Thursday, Aug. 22nd

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The Forum 9:00 AM Sunday August 25, 2024 -ONLY on ZOOM
The View from Inside Alaska Airlines
Alaska Airlines Vice-President Marilyn Romano

The Forum ONLY on ZOOM

9:00 am Sunday, August 25, 2024

More Interesting Forums in the Coming Three Weeks—One Zoom, Followed by Two In-Person

This Sunday's Zoom-only Forum, on August 25, will feature **Alaska Airlines Vice-President Marilyn Romano**. There have been many developments since she last spoke to us, and gave us an insider's view of what's happening in this business that affects so many Alaskans. Bring your questions to the 9 a.m. **Zoom** for this last weekend of August. We'll start out **September** with **IN-PERSON** Forums **BOTH of the first two weeks**. We will, of course, be on Zoom if you can't make it in person, but it's great for the speakers and for our fellowship to have as many as possible join us in the building.

On **September 1**—Labor Day weekend—our speaker will be **Alaska AFL-CIO President Joelle Hall**. She will be **in-person** at the Fellowship, talking about **Ballot Measure No. 1**, an initiative that will be on the upcoming General Election ballot to **increase Alaska's minimum wage**, provide workers with **paid sick leave**, and **protect workers** from practices that violate their constitutional rights.

On **September 8**, we'll **also** be **in-person**, and you will hear from Spenard-raised **TV and film actor James Morrison**, together with two people long active in the local **theatre** scene, **Paul Brown** and **Dave Block**. They will talk about **Morrison's one-man play** called "Leave Your Fears Here" exploring a family's journey through their son's brain cancer, which the group is bringing to Anchorage.

We are trying to give lots of notice of this **change from our regular routine** of Zoom-only Forums on the 2nd and 4th Sundays, and in-person/hybrid Forums on all other Sundays. Part of the reason for doing the September 8 Forum in-person is that James Morrison will be in Alaska that day to do his play, so we are taking advantage of this opportunity. But it's also a response to a number of folks who have asked if we can do more Forums in-person.

We appreciate your **feedback** on this and other ways you think we can make the Forum better, and enhance the sense of community in our AUUF Fellowship. Feel free to pass on other comments and suggestions about the Forum to **mckay@alaska.net** or to any member of the Forum Planning Committee: Dennis Arashiro, James Dryden, Heather Flynn, Lynn Hallquist, and John McKay.

[Click here to join on Zoom.](#)

[Click here for Speaker's bio.](#)



Sunday Worship 11:00 AM Sunday August 25th

IN PERSON & on Zoom

Culturally Connected Birthing

Rev. Lise Sherry & Helena Jacobs

Sunday Worship Live at AUUF & on Zoom

11:00 am Sunday, August 25, 2024

[Click here to join on Zoom.](#)

It Takes a Village

Even if you don't have young ones at home at the moment, please read the following, and send it on to someone you care about with children. It takes all of us to keep everyone safe!

[Click here to read the article.](#)

Blessings, Rev. Lise

An Easy Social Action Activity

Please join the Anti-Racism team in the social room after the 11:00 service on Sunday August 25th to help stuff envelopes for the ACLU Prison Project. Each month, the ACLU sends out a newsletter to individuals who are incarcerated in Alaska prisons, giving them important updated legal information as well as some human interest items. This not only helps these individuals remain informed but also let's them know they are not forgotten. Who doesn't like to get mail, right? There will be a small group of us there for a couple of hours. Please consider joining us, for as little time or as long as you like.

Thanks.

(Michele Champion, 907-341-9249).

Calling Playground Construction Volunteers

As many of you will already know, we have been planning for the installation of new playground equipment over the last couple of years. Late Board President Wendy Romberg was the original champion of our playground upgrade. Her family has been a significant financial contributor to the project and the work is being completed in Wendy's honor.

The new playground equipment has now been procured and received in Anchorage. You may have noticed the pallets of surfacing materials located in our parking lot. The steel structure is currently being stored nearby in Kalen Saxton's garage! It is now time to begin the construction.

Don Antrobus is preparing for the construction and will be doing preliminary work on the site between now and August 27. Then the bulk of the work will begin after September 6 (when Don's house guests depart). We are looking for volunteers willing to help with tasks like digging holes for footing, mixing and placing cement, and assembly of the equipment itself. Also, if you have some experience operating a skid steer or mini excavator, we'd love to hear from you even if just to share some ideas.

If you would like to be involved and help with this project, please contact Don Antrobus at (907) 980-2077. Let Don know of your interests and availability.

Volunteer Fair

Sunday, September 15th will be a "Volunteer Fair" at AUUF to recruit folks to the various teams/committees at AUUF. Please be sure that someone from your team is there to tell folks about your team and answer any questions. Flyers or half-sheets with info about your team are encouraged to hand out to folks perusing. Ideally, booths will be set up between the services and after the 11am service. Please contact connections@anchorageuuf.org with questions.

We look forward to seeing you there!
- Connections Team

Visiting UU Wanting to Connect with Anchorage UUs

A woman named Michelle reached out wanting to connect with Anchorage UUs during her visit to Anchorage on 9/3/24. She will be traveling with her 16 year old son, without a car, and they're hoping to find locals to borrow bikes from and perhaps show them around. I suggested they donate to the congregation if local UUs do offer their bikes or offer to show them around.

If you feel so inclined, feel free to pass this information along to AUUF members who might be interested. Her name, again, is Michelle, and her email address is hlubinka@gmail.com

Thanks,



Fall Frolic 2024-2025

The registration for Fall Frolic 2024-2025 is now open. The plan for this year includes many traditions like "The Talent Show" and "Moon Lanterns". We are also open to including new workshops and activities. If you have ideas to share or would like to lead a workshop, please contact Annie Belts, 907-440-6393. Finally, if you have any interest in cooking or helping with meal planning, please contact Annie Belts. Please register as soon as possible and note that the registration cut off this year is September 15th. The deadline ensures we have enough time to shop for food and materials. We are excited to see everyone Sept 27-29th at King's Lake in Wasilla.

[Fall Frolic 2024 Registration](#)

August 2024
HALF PORTION FOR SOCIAL ACTION:

Alaska Native Birthworkers Community

Go to anchorageuuf.org
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”

ALASKA NATIVE BIRTHWORKERS COMMUNITY

*Dedicated to serving Native birthing families
with culturally matched support*

We are Alaska Native midwives, doulas,
breastfeeding counselors and healers organizing to
reclaim Indigenous birth practices, support families
from preconception through postnatal care, and
increase capacity for Indigenous birthworkers.

OUR CURRENT SERVICES FOCUS ON THREE AREAS:

- Support Native birthing families
- Grow a statewide network of trained Native birthworkers
- Collaborate with partners for systemic change to better support Native and rural birthing families

*Contact us to connect about the services we offer, or to share about
other ways that we can serve our Native birthing community!*

WHAT WE OFFER

Support Native Birthing Families

This includes, but is not limited to: talking circles and resource sharing regarding preconception, pregnancy, parenting, postpartum and newborn care; labor support; collecting, organizing and distributing newborn items for welcome bundles, essential food bags, and pregnancy care packages; one on one visits with birthing families.

Grow a Statewide Network of Trained Native Birthworkers

We seek to formalize and grow a network of Native birthworkers who feel confident, competent and grounded in cultural values to support positive health and wellness outcomes for parents and babies. We do this through offering free training programs to current and aspiring birthworkers, such as a certified Indigenous Breastfeeding Counselor training and an Indigenous Full Spectrum Doula training.

Collaborate with Partners for Systemic Change to Better Support Native and Rural Birthing Families

We recognize and acknowledge the many institutions, organizations, and individuals are working in Alaska to support Native and rural birthing families. We want to collaborate with you and do this together!



www.nativebirthworkers.org // nativebirthworker@gmail.com



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 Tu 11-3; Th and F 11-3, and by appointment

Congregational Administrator, 907-248-3737 x1 Admin@anchorageUUF.org
Usually Monday - Tuesday & Thursday- Friday 11:00 am-3:00 pm.
Please call before coming.

Jennifer Bluntach (she/her) Director of Religious Exploration,
DRE@anchorageuuf.org

Working remotely the month of August 2024. Beginning in September office hours will be Sundays 9am-3pm, Monday Off, Tuesday 9-3, Wednesday 9-3, Thursday 9-3 and Friday 9 am-12 pm

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

Esme Danner (she/her) Music Director
907-248-3737 x4
Music@anchorageuuf.org

Dan Norton: AV Coordinator
907-248-3737 x5,

AVCoordinator@anchorageuuf.org

Connections@AnchorageUUF.org

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

Connect with us



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UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST
FELLOWSHIP
*diverse beliefs,
common purpose.*

Today At Our Fellowship
Thursday, August 29, 2024

This Weekend @ AUUF

Thursday 8/29/24

6:30 pm Choir Practice

Friday 8/30/24

8:15-11:15 am Music Together Mountain
Song

12:00-2:00 pm Freethinkers, In-Person

Saturday 8/31/24

8:30-10:30 am AA Slap Happy Group
10:30-12:45 pm Music Together Mountain
Song

6:30-8:30 pm Private Rental

Sunday 9/1/24

9:00 am The Forum In- Person & on
ZOOM

11:00 am Sunday Worship In- Person &
on ZOOM

4:00 pm Anchorage Friends Meeting

Monday 9/2/24

6:30 pm Fireweed Sangha of Mindful
Living- Private Rental - Room 5

Tuesday 9/3/24

4:30-6:30 pm Forum Planning on Zoom

7:00-9:00 pm Alaska Bird Club Meeting

Wednesday 9/4/24

3:15-5:15 pm Private Rental

5:00-8:00 pm Connections Team Meeting

7:00-8:00 pm Building & Grounds
Meeting

Thursday 9/5/24

6:30-8 pm Choir Practice

Half Portion for September

[Food Bank of Alaska](#)

Choir Returns 8/29!

Choir rehearsals will resume on Thursday 8/29 at 6:30! All experience levels and voice types are welcome. Come sing and have fun! Email any related questions to Esme at [**music@anchorageuuf.org**](mailto:music@anchorageuuf.org).



The Forum 9:00 AM Sunday September 1, 2024

In-Person & on ZOOM

Ballot Measure #1: Higher Minimum Wage, Paid Sick leave & Worker Protections with Joelle Hall AFL-CIO President

The Forum Live at AUUF & on Zoom 9:00 am Sunday, September 1, 2024

On **September 1**—Labor Day weekend—our speaker will be **Alaska AFL-CIO President Joelle Hall**. She will be **in-person** at the Fellowship, talking about **Ballot Measure No. 1**, an initiative that will be on the upcoming General Election ballot to **increase Alaska's minimum wage**, provide workers with **paid sick leave**, and **protect workers** from practices that violate their constitutional rights.

On **September 8**, we'll **also** be **in-person**, and you will hear from Spenard-raised **TV and film actor James Morrison**, together with two people long active in the local **theatre** scene, **Paul Brown** and **Dave Block**. They will talk about **Morrison's one-man play** called "Leave Your Fears Here" exploring a family's journey through their son's brain cancer, which the group is bringing to Anchorage.

We are trying to give lots of notice of this **change from our regular routine** of Zoom-only Forums on the 2nd and 4th Sundays, and in-person/hybrid Forums on all other Sundays. Part of the reason for doing the September 8 Forum in-person is that James Morrison will be in Alaska that day to do his play, so we are taking advantage of this opportunity. But it's also a response to a number of folks who have asked if we can do more Forums in-person.

We appreciate your **feedback** on this and other ways you think we can make the Forum better, and enhance the sense of community in our AUUF Fellowship. Feel free to pass on other comments and suggestions about the Forum to **mckay@alaska.net** or to any member of the Forum Planning Committee: Dennis Arashiro, James Dryden, Heather Flynn, Lynn Hallquist, and John McKay.

[Click here to join on Zoom.](#)

[Click here for Speaker's bio.](#)

Union STRONG UNION Proud

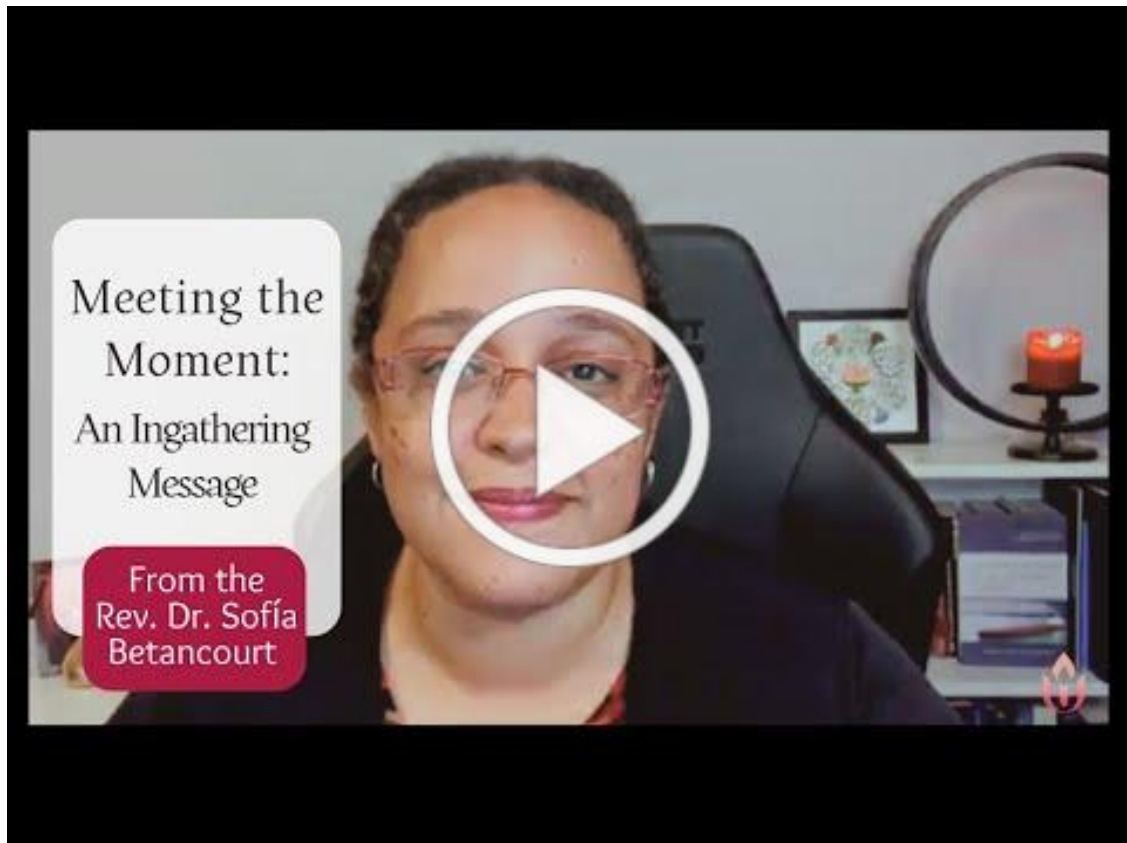


Sunday Worship 11:00 AM Sunday September 1, 2024
In-Person & on ZOOM
Union Strong, Union Proud
Barb Clark

Sunday Worship Live at AUUF & on Zoom
11:00 am Sunday, September 1, 2024

[Click here to join on Zoom.](#)

Meeting the Moment: An Ingathering Message from Rev. Dr. Sofía Betancourt



[Click here to read more.](#)

It Takes a Village

Even if you don't have young ones at home at the moment, please read the following, and send it on to someone you care about with children. It takes all of us to keep everyone safe!

[Click here to read the article.](#)

Blessings, Rev. Lise



Playground Update

The shed move in preparation of playground construction was completed Sunday afternoon!

Many thanks to all who helped determine the location and complete the move. Our prep crew who came to prune the tree and clear space for the shed move included Tim and Catherine Huffman,

Terry Antrobus, Diego Jensen and Bruce Roberts. The move team included Rob and Kath, Nelson Sherry, Bruce and Levi. It really went pretty smoothly and took about 3 hours to empty, move, and reload the shed.

Here are some next steps:

Utility locates: I contacted Alaska 811, the entity who coordinates utility locates. All of the utilities were marked this morning – except the power line we need located. I learned that the power utility will only locate the lines up to the meter. Anything beyond that, including the lines to our light poles, are considered private lines and our responsibility. I contacted a third party locator who will be on site tomorrow to locate the buried power line through the playground area. Keep your fingers crossed that they are buried deep enough to not interfere with our construction activities. (I'm betting on deep enough.)

Today I met at the fellowship with Eric Somerville. Eric, Bonnie's husband, has experience operating construction equipment and has volunteered his time to help with the earthmoving/sitework part of the job. We are planning to complete this work on Saturday/Sunday September 7 & 8. This work will include relocating and regrading the snow dump, excavating the playground site an average of about 8 inches, and then placing, compacting and leveling 4 inches of select fill. I anticipate that we will be blocking off several parking spaces for stockpiling topsoil and fill material during these activities. I've arranged to borrow a dump trailer from a friend to haul our fill material from ASG. I will be renting a skid steer and compactor for the work. I will be looking for some strong backs for those two days to help rake out and compact the select fill material.

After completion of the site work, the next step will be to excavate holes for the main beams of the play structure, erect the main frame of the structure, and pour concrete footing around these main posts. Although I don't yet have specific dates scheduled for this part of the work, I anticipate that it may be the most labor

intensive due to the large quantities of concrete that will need to be mixed.

Please share this email as needed. Let me know if you have any questions. And please do some recruiting for volunteer construction labor!!!

In fellowship,

Don



Our Volunteer Services Committee has been working hard to make sure that when our guests move into their individual shelter units at In Our Backyard, Volunteers will be ready to welcome and assist them. November 1 is our target date to welcome the first occupants to the units being constructed on the property of Central Lutheran Church, so we are now actively seeking interested volunteers. If you think this might be how you can best support IOBY, please take a few minutes to complete this survey:

VOLUNTEER SURVEY**

****NOTE:** Some recipients could not access the survey using the link sent on August 22, so we have corrected the link here. Thanks for your patience.

Filling out the form does not obligate you to volunteer but does give us a picture of who we can draw upon. Thanks for your time and interest! If you are not able to access the survey using the link above, please contact **secretary@inourbackyard-ak.org**.

- Follow us on Facebook. **In Our Backyard Alaska** Comment and Share. Take a look at our website: **<https://inourbackyard-ak.org/>**
- Pray for guidance and patience, and for the people living unsheltered who need a safe place to be.

Loaves & Fishes,

Julie Graham, Betsy Baker and Betty Hertz, IOBY Board Members

Volunteer Fair

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your team are encouraged to hand out to folks perusing. Ideally, booths will be set up between the services and after the 11am service. Please contact connections@anchorageuuf.org with questions.

We look forward to seeing you there!
- Connections Team



Fall Frolic 2024-2025

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[Fall Frolic 2024 Registration](#)

September 2024 HALF PORTION FOR SOCIAL ACTION: Food Bank of Alaska

No Excuse for Hunger

With this core belief and a commitment to preventing good food from being wasted, a small group of Anchorage church and community volunteers organized Food Bank of Alaska in 1979 to serve the entire state.

Food Bank of Alaska plays a crucial role in combating hunger across the state. We work with food industry partners to salvage food that would otherwise go to waste from grocery stores, wholesalers, producers, farmers, and the fishing industry. Additionally, we collect food donated by community members and administer

government food programs.

Our Impact

In 2023 alone, with your help, we distributed 6,732,606 meals across Alaska. These meals were shipped statewide to 154 partner food pantries, soup kitchens, senior centers, and children's programs, ensuring that our neighbors have access to the nutritious food they need.

Currently, 1 in 7 Alaskans, including 1 in 5 children, struggle with hunger. Your generosity makes it possible for Food Bank of Alaska to feed hungry children, families, and seniors. Learn more about food insecurity and where these numbers came from in Feeding America's most recent **Map the Meal Gap** report.

Go to anchorageuuf.org
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.

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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.



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Jennifer Bluntach (she/her) Director of Religious Exploration,

DRE@anchorageuuf.org

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AVCoordinator@anchorageuuf.org

Connections@AnchorageUUF.org

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

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FELLOWSHIP
*diverse beliefs,
common purpose.*

Today At Our Fellowship
Thursday, September 5, 2024

This Weekend @ AUUF

Thursday 9/5/24

6:30 pm Choir Practice

Friday 9/6/24

12:00-2:00 pm Freethinkers, In-Person

Saturday 9/7/24

8:30-10:30 am AA Slap Happy Group

1:30-3:30 pm Private Rental

Sunday 9/8/24

9:00 am The Forum In- Person & on
ZOOM

11:00 am Sunday Worship In- Person &
on ZOOM

12:30 pm -The Alliance at AUUF

1:30 pm -Worship Associate Meeting on
Zoom

4:00 pm Anchorage Friends Meeting

Monday 9/9/24

3:30-6:00 pm Private Rental

6:30-8:00 pm Fireweed Sangha of
Mindful Living- Private Rental - Room 5

Tuesday 9/10/24

2:00-3:30 pm Hungry Book Club

Wednesday 9/11/24

3:15-5:15 pm Private Rental

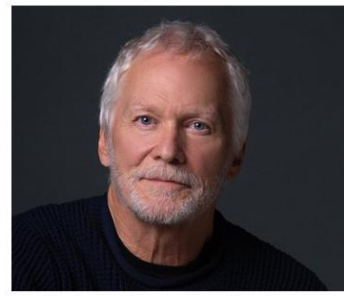
Thursday 9/12/24

5:30-7:00 pm CYRE Team Meeting

6:30-8 pm Choir Practice

Half Portion for September

[Food Bank of Alaska](#)



The Forum 9:00 AM Sunday September 8, 2024 IN PERSON & on Zoom
*A TV & Film Actor's Play about Battling His Son's Brain Cancer with Hope
& Love* with James Morrison, Paul Brown, Dave Block

The Forum Live at AUUF & on Zoom 9:00 am Sunday, September 8, 2024

[Click here to join on Zoom.](#)

[Click here for Speaker's bio.](#)

Discounted Play Tickets for AUUF

The company presenting the upcoming Anchorage production of James Morrison's one-man play, "Leave Your Fears Here," an uplifting and inspirational exploration of his family's journey after their young son was diagnosed with brain cancer, is offering the **AUUF** community a **50% discount** for the **Sunday, September 15 performance**, while they last. Reservations can be made through the Midnight Sun Theatre Company website, **MidnightSunTheatre.Org**. Use the code Senior915 to get the discount; it will only work for the Sept. 15 performance. Tickets are being sold only on the Midnight Sun website. The playwright, TV and film actor **James Morrison**, will be speaking **this Sunday, September 8, at the Forum** at 9:00 am, in person. You can read more about him on the [Speakers Bio Page](#) for this Sunday's Forum and on [here](#): (James' website) and (IMBD) [here](#).

SEPTEMBER AT THE FORUM

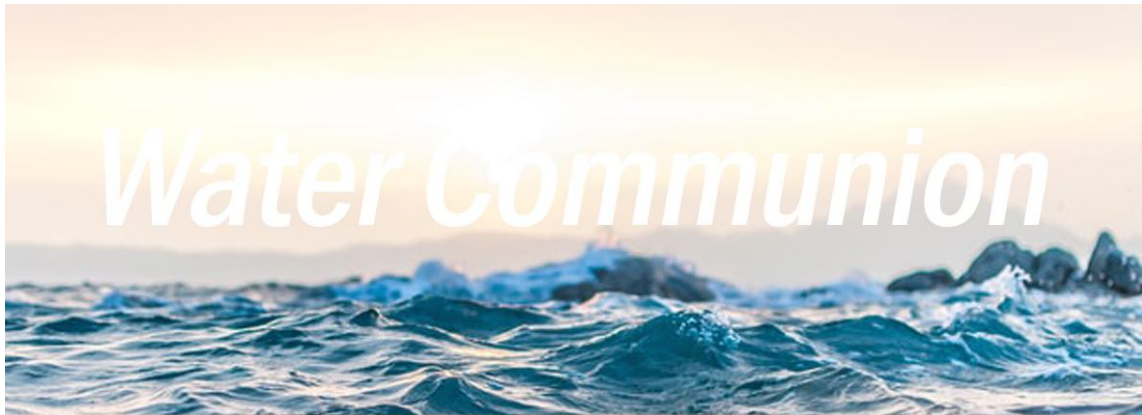
Welcome to Fall and another great month of Forum programs. **At least four of the five Forums in September**—and maybe all of them—**will be in-person**. Our speaker for September 22, Rev. Matt Schultz, would love to join us in person and is trying to make arrangements for that but may not know for a week or so. Many of you have been asking about meeting in person as often as we can, so please stay tuned: As soon as we know we'll post the info in This Week at Our Fellowship and announce it at the Forums between now and then. As always, you can join all our Forums by Zoom if you can't make it in person.

If you missed the September 1 presentation and excellent conversation with **Alaska AFL-CIO President Joelle Hall** on Labor Day weekend, you can listen to it and audio recordings of our other Forums by going to **www.anchorageuuf.org** and clicking on the "Podcast Archives" link at the bottom of the big green box front and center on our Home Page. When you listen to one of our podcasts, **remember to check the "Show Notes"** before clicking on the button to start playing the recording. If our speakers show **slides or video** during their presentation, we post links to those in the Show Notes so you can view

them while you listen to the speaker talking about them, like you would have if you'd been able to join in person. The Show Notes also contain the speakers' bios and photos, and sometimes links to other materials related to the program. Thanks to Ken Winterberger for all his work making these podcasts available to all of us.

This Sunday, September 8, we will be joined in person by **TV, film, and stage actor James Morrison**, who grew up in Anchorage in the '70s and will be in town to perform his one-man play, "Leave Your Fears Here," an inspirational play exploring his family's battle with their young son's brain cancer. He will be joined by Midnight Sun Theatre's David Block, and Paul Brown. On **September 15**, our speaker will be mountaineer, naturalist, and raconteur **Tom Choate**, sharing reflections as he turns 90, still going strong and still stopping to enjoy the flowers. On **September 22**, **Rev. Matt Schultz**, pastor of First Presbyterian Church and known to many of you for his work on homelessness and involvement in other community activities, will talk about "**Deweaponizing the Bible**," a timely topic in the run-up to the election. **This may be in person**. A fourth Sunday Forum would normally be Zoom-only, but we are hoping to do this in-person, so stay tuned: as soon as we know whether Rev. Matt is able to make arrangements for someone to take over another Sunday morning responsibility at his own church that day so he can join us in person as he would like, we'll let you know.

Finally, our Forum speaker for the fifth and last Sunday this month, on **September 29**, will be **Joe Josephson**, sharing **reminiscences about Bob Bartlett**, one of Alaska's first pair of US Senators. Joe is a former state senator with a long record of public service to Alaska and Anchorage, beginning with his work as staffer and aide to Bob Bartlett while Bartlett was still the territorial delegate for Alaska. He will be joined for the Forum by his son, Andy Josephson. This will be a good opportunity to learn some history and say goodbye to Joe as he begins his retirement.



Sunday Worship 11:00 AM Sunday September 8, 2024 IN PERSON & on Zoom
Water Communion & Homecoming
Rev. Lise Adams Sherry & Jennifer Bluntach, Director of Religious Exploration

Sunday Worship Live at AUUF & on Zoom
11:00 am Sunday, September 8, 2024

Jennifer and I are looking forward to this service so we can see everyone again and introduce her (our new Director of Religious Exploration) more formally to the congregation! In preparation for this Sunday, please:

1. Remember to bring water in representation of experiences that fed your soul this summer--maybe you did a lot of gardening, went kayaking or swimming, ate a lot of popsicles--the sky is the limit regarding the different types of water you can bring to our Water Communion service!
2. Bring some actual coinage for our service as we would like to have a noisy offering this Sunday.
3. Be prepared to help us act out our worship story.
3. Plan to stay for a Soup Sunday after the service. Yum!
4. Check in with your AUUF friends to make sure they're coming so we all can catch up with one another.

See you Sunday!

Blessings, Rev. Lise

[Click here to join on Zoom.](#)

Volunteer Fair

Sunday, September 15th will be a "Volunteer Fair" at AUUF to recruit folks to the various teams/committees at AUUF. Please be sure that someone from your team is there to tell folks about your team and answer any questions. Flyers or half-sheets with info about your team are encouraged to hand out to folks perusing. Ideally, booths will be set up between the services and after the 11am service. Please contact connections@anchorageuuf.org with questions.

We look forward to seeing you there!

- Connections Team



A message from Jennifer Bluntach

AUUF's new Director of Religious Exploration

Greetings AUUF members and friends!

I arrived in Anchorage the last week of August and am now working in-person at the Fellowship. I am excited to meet everyone over the coming weeks and months! I am planning some time to sit and chat this month on Sep 12, 19 and 26 (all Thursdays) from 10am-12pm for anyone who would like to stop by any time during that time frame for coffee and a visit.

Teacher orientation for RE teachers and helpers will be on Saturday, September 14 from 9am-1pm. Childcare will be available. This year we will be using Chalice Children for Pre-K and Soul Matters for the other school age groups which have a monthly theme. I don't know about you, but I find themes very exciting and fun. There is even a themed music playlist for each month. I'm not musically gifted but I sure love and appreciate music!

In addition to Sunday RE classes, Coming of Age will begin in mid-October. I will be leading that group but need helpers (a second adult to be there) and mentors (for the kids to meet monthly or every other month with.) If I could get four individuals, as helpers to rotate being at the gathering times that would be fabulous. Then the commitment would just be coming once every two months or so as we will not meet weekly. More information

about COA will be out later this month.

I have many things to learn and become familiar with so I greatly appreciate your patience with me as I adapt. I'm human and am sure to miss something or make a mistake from time to time but will try my best.

One of the crucial parts in youth programming is the help of volunteers. Programs can't exist without two things, participants and volunteers. My plan is to make volunteering simple and fun! If you are on the fence about volunteering, please don't hesitate to contact me with any questions by email, phone or in-person. Any time commitment is greatly appreciated!!!

Looking forward to a great year!
Jennifer Bluntach



Fall Frolic 2024-2025

The registration for Fall Frolic 2024-2025 is now open. The plan for this year includes many traditions like "The Talent Show" and "Moon Lanterns". We are also open to including new workshops and activities. If you have ideas to share or would like to lead a workshop, please contact Annie Belts, 907-440-6393. Finally, if you have any interest in cooking or helping with meal planning, please contact Annie Belts. Please register as soon as possible and note that the registration cut off this year is September 15th. The deadline ensures we have enough time to shop for food and materials. We are excited to see everyone Sept 27-29th at King's Lake in Wasilla.

[Fall Frolic 2024 Registration](#)



Half Portion Recipient

FOOD BANK
of ALASKA



September 2024 HALF PORTION FOR SOCIAL ACTION: Food Bank of Alaska

Hunger is a reality for many in our community, though it's often hidden. Nearly 45 percent of families seeking food assistance in Alaska have at least one working member, and almost 65 percent are facing unpaid medical bills. With 1 in 8 Alaskans, or around 94,000 people, needing food assistance, hunger is closer than we might think.

Children and seniors are particularly affected. Over 1 in 6 children in Alaska face food insecurity, and 9 percent of seniors are at risk of hunger, placing Alaska 12th in the nation for senior hunger risk. Social Security is the main source of income for 18 percent of those relying on Alaska's food distribution network.

Food Bank of Alaska, committed to eliminating hunger, distributed 6.7 million pounds of food last year through nearly 150 partner agencies. Their efforts included serving **50,119 children's meals**, distributing **22,998 senior food boxes**, and providing over **5 million meals to those in need**. During the Thanksgiving Blessing program, **9,997 families received holiday meals**, and **79 rural sites** were supported statewide. Additionally, **629,343 meals** were secured through SNAP outreach.

September is **Hunger Action Month**, a nationwide effort to raise awareness about hunger in America and inspire action. This month, as we reflect on the reality of hunger in our own state, let's join in the collective effort to make a difference. This work is made possible by 1,064 volunteers who contributed 17,628 hours to help fight hunger. Every meal and every hour of service is a step toward a more just

and compassionate society.

For more information or to get involved, visit www.foodbankofalaska.org or follow them on Facebook.

Go to anchorageuuf.org
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”



Support Grow North Farmers!

The last day of the farm is coming quickly! Farmers will be selling produce every Thursday until September 26th at Grow North Farm.

Grow North Farm provides a space for agricultural entrepreneurs with a refugee background to launch or support their agriculture and food-based business. Come shop local and enjoy fresh veggies every Thursday from 4:00-7:00 p.m. at Grow North Farm (3601 Mountainview Dr. Anchorage, AK 99508).

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

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RevLise@anchorageUUF.org
Office hours are usually Tu 11-3; Th and F 11-3, and by appointment

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Usually Monday - Tuesday & Thursday- Friday 11:00 am-3:00 pm.
Please call before coming.

Jennifer Bluntach (she/her) Director of Religious Exploration
DRE@anchorageuuf.org
Office hours usually are:
Sunday 9am-3pm, Tuesday 9am-3pm, Wednesday 9am-3pm, Thursday 9-3pm and Friday 9 am-12 pm

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

Esme Danner (she/her) Music Director
907-248-3737 x4
Music@anchorageuuf.org

Dan Norton: AV Coordinator
907-248-3737 x5,
AVCoordinator@anchorageuuf.org

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

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UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST
FELLOWSHIP
*diverse beliefs,
common purpose.*

Today At Our Fellowship
Thursday, September 12, 2024

This Weekend @ AUUF

Thursday 9/12/24

5:30 pm CYRE Team Meeting

6:30 pm Choir Practice

Friday 9/13/24

8:15 am Private Rental

12:00-2:00 pm Freethinkers, In-Person

Saturday 9/14/24

8:30-10:30 am AA Slap Happy Group

10:30 am-3:30 pm Private Rental

Sunday 9/15/24

9:00 am The Forum In- Person & on
ZOOM

11:00 am Sunday Worship In- Person &
on ZOOM

10:15 pm -1:30 pm AUUF Volunteer Fair

4:00 pm Anchorage Friends Meeting

Monday 9/16/24

3:30-6:00 pm Private Rental

6:30-8:00 pm Fireweed Sangha of
Mindful Living- Private Rental - Room 5

Tuesday 9/17/24

5:30 pm Finance Committee Meeting

Wednesday 9/18/24

11:00 am Nominating Committee
Meeting

3:15 pm Private Rental

Thursday 9/19/24

1:30 pm UUHR Meeting

6:30 pm Board of Directors Meeting

6:30-8 pm Choir Practice

Half Portion for September

[Food Bank of Alaska](#)



The Forum 9:00 AM Sunday September 15, 2024

IN PERSON & on Zoom

Turning 90: Approaching My Next Summit, and Still Stopping for the Flowers

Tom Choate

The Forum Live at AUUF & on Zoom

9:00 am Sunday, September 15, 2024

[Click here to join on Zoom.](#)

[Click here for Speaker's bio.](#)

SEPTEMBER AT THE FORUM

Welcome to Fall and another great month of Forum programs. **At least four of the five Forums in September**—and maybe all of them—**will be in-person**. Our speaker for September 22, Rev. Matt Schultz, would love to join us in person and is trying to make arrangements for that but may not know for a week or so. Many of you have been asking about meeting in person as often as we can, so please stay tuned: As soon as we know we'll post the info in This Week at Our Fellowship and announce it at the Forums between now and then. As always, you can join all our Forums by Zoom if you can't make it in person.

If you missed the September 1 presentation and excellent conversation with **Alaska AFL-CIO President Joelle Hall** on Labor Day weekend, you can listen to it and audio recordings of our other Forums by going to **www.anchorageuuf.org** and clicking on the "**Podcast Archives**" link at the bottom of the big green box front and center on our Home Page. When you listen to one of our podcasts, **remember to check the "Show Notes"** before clicking on the button to start playing the recording. If our speakers show **slides or video** during their presentation, we post links to those in the Show Notes so you can view them while you listen to the speaker talking about them, like you would have if you'd been able to join in person. The Show Notes also contain the speakers' bios and photos, and sometimes links to other materials related to the program. Thanks to Ken Winterberger for all his work making these podcasts available to all of us.

Sunday, September 8, we will be joined in person by **TV, film, and stage actor James Morrison**, who grew up in Anchorage in the '70s and will be in town to perform his one-man play, "Leave Your Fears Here," an inspirational play exploring his family's battle with their young son's brain cancer. He will be joined by Midnight Sun Theatre's David Block, and Paul Brown. On **September 15**, our speaker will be mountaineer, naturalist, and raconteur **Tom Choate**, sharing reflections as he turns 90, still going strong and still stopping to enjoy the flowers. On **September 22**, **Rev. Matt Schultz**, pastor of First Presbyterian Church and known to many of you for his work on homelessness and

involvement in other community activities, will talk about “**Deweaponizing the Bible**,” a timely topic in the run-up to the election. **This *may be* in person**. A fourth Sunday Forum would normally be Zoom-only, but we are hoping to do this in-person, so stay tuned: as soon as we know whether Rev. Matt is able to make arrangements for someone to take over another Sunday morning responsibility at his own church that day so he can join us in person as he would like, we’ll let you know.

Finally, our Forum speaker for the fifth and last Sunday this month, on **September 29**, will be **Joe Josephson**, sharing **reminiscences about Bob Bartlett**, one of Alaska’s first pair of US Senators. Joe is a former state senator with a long record of public service to Alaska and Anchorage, beginning with his work as staffer and aide to Bob Bartlett while Bartlett was still the territorial delegate for Alaska. He will be joined for the Forum by his son, Andy Josephson. This will be a good opportunity to learn some history and say goodbye to Joe as he begins his retirement.

Twelve Steps the Secular way



Sunday Worship 11:00 AM Sunday September 15, 2024
IN PERSON & on Zoom
Twelve Steps the Secular way
Rev. Lise Adams Sherry & Michele Champion

Sunday Worship Live at AUUF & on Zoom
11:00 am Sunday, September 15, 2024

[Click here to join on Zoom.](#)

AUUF Volunteer Fair Sunday Sept. 15

AUUF needs YOU! Come explore all our various teams/committees, and consider how you can fit in! Tables will be set up in the social room during both social hours from 10:15 am-1:00 pm with snacks available. While there, be sure to fill out or update your “Connections Form” for our database... it helps us in our search for talent / skills / interest, PLUS allows us to connect with your emergency contact if it’s ever needed. Sponsored by the AUUF Connections Team • connections@anchorageuuf.org

TIME FOR 2025 HALF PORTION NOMINATIONS

Our Fellowship donates half of our Sunday collections each month to a charitable cause selected by our congregation through the democratic process. Please nominate the causes you find worthy [here](#) and read more below:

WHAT: Now is the time to put forth your nominations for next year's Half Portion for Social Action. Your passion for the causes you support can fuel effective positive action by identifying those receiving half the Sunday collections for a month.

WHO: Name the charitable funds or organizations you are nominating. They should have tax exempt status, usually designated as a 501(c)(3) organization. They should have a mission consistent with our principles and a demonstrated record of effective action.

WHEN: Nominations are due by October 1, 2024. After a period of vetting nominees, you will be given the opportunity to vote from October 13 to November 1 for 10 nominees as recipients of the monthly Half Portion for Social Action for 2025. The final schedule for the 2025 Half Portion will be announced on November 17.

WHY: 5th Principle: The Right of Conscience and the Use of the Democratic Process Within Our Congregations and in Society at Large.

HOW: [Click here to declare your nominations.](#)

Join Our Anti-Racism Team Book Read!

JOIN OUR ANTI-RACISM TEAM GROUP READ!

WE HAVE NOT STOPPED TREMBLING YET:

LETTERS TO MY FILIPINO-ATHABASCAN FAMILY

by E.J.R. DAVID

Associate Professor of Psychology at the University of Alaska Anchorage, Dr. David, in a series of letters to his mixed-race Filipino-Athabascan family, explores the deep effects of colonialism and racial oppression that his children are confronted with. Weaving together deeply personal memories, family experiences and empirical data, he engages us in a journey of learning and healing.

Please join the Anti-Racism Team after the Worship Service in person in the Fellowship Library or online through the link provided on the AUUF website to discuss the many issues raised in the readings on:

SUNDAYS, 12:30 - 2 PM,

OCTOBER 20

NOVEMBER 3

NOVEMBER 17

David's memoir can be ordered on Amazon, Barnes and Noble and The Writer's Block. Copies are also available through the Loussac Library. If you have any questions, please contact Dennis Arashiro at the Social Justice Table in the Social Room at the Fellowship on Sundays or at elvischannel@yahoo.com.

Social Action Opportunities

Volunteers Needed for Family Emergency Cold Weather Shelter

AUUF is entering it's 3rd year of helping at the emergency cold weather shelter for families (children and adults in a duplex in a neighborhood in Anchorage). We provide staffing coverage from 5 PM Tuesday (2 Tuesdays each month) to 9 AM (Wednesday), October through April. The coverage is broken up into shifts of 4 hours or less and there are always at least 2 of us on each shift.

We help with providing dinner, engaging with the guests, helping everyone get settled down for the evening (each family has their own room), making sure all are safe during the night, and helping the kids get off to school in the morning by calling established taxis. If you think you might be interested in joining our volunteer team, please see Dennis in the social room after services on Sundays, or call me, Michele, at 907-341-9249.

This is a rewarding way to help those in need.

An Easy Social Action Activity : Please join the Anti-Racism team in the social room after the 11:00 service on Sunday, September 22nd, to help stuff envelopes for the ACLU Prison Project. Each month, the ACLU sends out a newsletter to individuals who are incarcerated in Alaska prisons, giving them important updated legal information as well as some human interest items. This not only helps these individuals remain informed but also let's them know they are not forgotten. Who doesn't like to get mail, right? There will be a small group of us there for a couple of hours. Please consider joining us, for as little time or as long as you like. Thanks. (Michele Champion, 907-341-9249)

RE Teacher/Helper Orientation Rescheduled

RE Teacher/Volunteer Orientation has been rescheduled for Saturday, September 21 from 9 am-1pm downstairs at the Fellowship.

Pre-Kick-off to 2024/2025 RE Classes

If you have not done so, register your kids for RE classes this Sunday!

Official classes with our SoulMatters curricula begin October 6

Kids are welcome to join the new DRE, Jennifer Bluntach, and helpers downstairs this Sunday, September 15 and next Sunday, September 22 for games, stories and time for us all to get to know one another.

Bring warm clothes to play outside on September 22 and we'll make s'mores outside as our snack!

Safer Congregation Team - Guidebook Snippet

Linda McCool - Team Chairperson

Your Safer Congregation Team has been periodically publishing "snippets" from its 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. The following passage is from pages 2-3 of the Guidebook.

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.

SCT Membership

The SCT will be composed of, at a minimum: the minister, religious educator, mental health or medical/nursing professional, and two members of the Fellowship. It is preferable that two of the members of the team be familiar with issues that may be likely to arise to include, but not be limited to: sexual assault, sexual harassment, human resources, security, and legal issues.



A message from Jennifer Bluntach

AUUF's new Director of Religious Exploration

Greetings AUUF members and friends!

I arrived in Anchorage the last week of August and am now working in-person at the Fellowship. I am excited to meet everyone over the coming weeks and months! I am planning some time to sit and chat this month on Sep 12, 19 and 26 (all Thursdays) from 10am-12pm for anyone who would like to stop by any time during that time frame for coffee and a visit.

Teacher orientation for RE teachers and helpers will be on Saturday, September 14 from 9am-1pm. Childcare will be available. This year we will be using Chalice Children for Pre-K and Soul Matters for the other school age groups which have a monthly theme. I don't know about you, but I find themes very exciting and fun. There is even a themed music playlist for each month. I'm not musically gifted but I sure love and appreciate music!

In addition to Sunday RE classes, Coming of Age will begin in mid-October. I will be leading that group but need helpers (a second adult to be there) and mentors (for the kids to meet monthly or every other month with.) If I could get four individuals, as helpers to rotate being at the gathering times that would be fabulous. Then the commitment would just be coming once every two months or so as we will not meet weekly. More information about COA will be out later this month.

I have many things to learn and become familiar with so I greatly appreciate your patience with me as I adapt. I'm human and am sure to miss something or make a mistake from time to time but will try my best.

One of the crucial parts in youth programming is the help of volunteers. Programs can't exist without two things, participants and volunteers. My plan is to make volunteering simple and fun! If you are on the fence about volunteering, please don't hesitate to contact me with any questions by email, phone or in-person. Any time commitment is greatly appreciated!!!

Looking forward to a great year!
Jennifer Bluntach



Fall Frolic 2024-2025

The registration for Fall Frolic 2024-2025 is now open. The plan for this year includes many traditions like "The Talent Show" and "Moon Lanterns". We are also open to including new workshops and activities. If you have ideas to share or would like to lead a workshop, please contact Annie Belts, 907-440-6393. Finally, if you have any interest in cooking or helping with meal planning, please contact Annie Belts. **Please register as soon as possible and note that the registration cut off this year is September 15th.** The deadline ensures we have enough time to shop for food and materials. We are excited to see everyone Sept 27-29th at King's Lake in Wasilla.

[Fall Frolic 2024 Registration](#)



Half Portion Recipient

FOOD BANK
of ALASKA



September 2024 HALF PORTION FOR SOCIAL ACTION: Food Bank of Alaska

Hunger is a reality for many in our community, though it's often hidden. Nearly 45 percent of families seeking food assistance in Alaska have at least one working member, and almost 65 percent are facing unpaid medical bills. With 1 in 8 Alaskans, or around 94,000 people, needing food assistance, hunger is closer than we might think.

Children and seniors are particularly affected. Over 1 in 6 children in Alaska face food insecurity, and 9 percent of seniors are at risk of hunger, placing Alaska 12th in the nation for senior hunger risk. Social Security is the main source of income for 18 percent of those relying on Alaska's food distribution network.

Food Bank of Alaska, committed to eliminating hunger, distributed 6.7 million pounds of food last year through nearly 150 partner agencies. Their efforts included serving **50,119 children's meals**, distributing **22,998 senior food boxes**, and providing over **5 million meals to those in need**. During the Thanksgiving Blessing program, **9,997 families received holiday meals**, and **79 rural sites** were supported statewide. Additionally, **629,343 meals** were secured through SNAP outreach.

September is **Hunger Action Month**, a nationwide effort to raise awareness about hunger in America and inspire action. This month, as we reflect on the reality of hunger in our own state, let's join in the collective effort to make a difference. This work is made possible by 1,064 volunteers who contributed 17,628 hours to help fight hunger. Every meal and every hour of service is a step toward a more just and compassionate society.

For more information or to get involved, visit www.foodbankofalaska.org or follow them on Facebook.

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“Half-Portion for Social Action”



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Friday 9 am-12 pm

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

Esme Danner (she/her) Music Director
907-248-3737 x4
Music@anchorageuuf.org

Dan Norton: AV Coordinator
907-248-3737 x5,
AVCoordinator@anchorageuuf.org

Contact the Connections Team for more information on how to get involved.
Connections@anchorageuuf.org

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*diverse beliefs,
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Today At Our Fellowship
Thursday, September 19, 2024

This Weekend @ AUUF

Thursday 9/19/24

6:30 pm Board of Director's Meeting
6:30 pm Choir Practice

Friday 9/20/24

8:15 am Private Rental
12:00-2:00 pm Freethinkers, In-Person

Saturday 9/21/24

8:30-10:30 am AA Slap Happy Group
9:00-1:00 pm RE Teacher Orientation
10:30 am-12:45 pm Private Rental

Sunday 9/22/24

9:00 am The Forum ONLY on ZOOM

11:00 am Sunday Worship In- Person &
on ZOOM

Sunday continued

4:00 pm Anchorage Friends Meeting
5:30 pm Family Emergency Cold
Weather Training-Off-site at St. John's
Methodist

Monday 9/23/24

6:30 pm Private Rental

Tuesday 9/24/24

6:00-8:00 pm Program Council

Wednesday 9/25/24

3:15 pm Private Rental

Thursday 9/26/24

10:00 am -12:00 pm Coffee time with Jen
6:30 pm Choir Practice



The Forum 9:00 AM Sunday September 22, 2024
ONLY on Zoom
Deweaponizing the Bible
Rev. Matt Schultz

The Forum Only on Zoom

9:00 am Sunday, September 22, 2024

[Click here to join on Zoom.](#)

[Click here for Speaker's bio.](#)

SEPTEMBER AT THE FORUM

PLEASE NOTE: **This Sunday's Forum with Rev. Matt Schultz will be ZOOM-ONLY.** This is what we usually do on 4th Sundays, but Rev. Schultz was hoping he could speak in person. Unfortunately, that did not work out but we are looking forward to his presentation on "**Deweaponizing the Bible**" and seeing you all on Zoom at 9:00 a.m. on **September 22nd**. **The following Sunday, September 29, will be in person** (and, as always, also on Zoom), with **Joe Josephson** sharing **reminiscences about Bob Bartlett**, one of Alaska's first pair of US Senators. Joe is a former state senator with a long record of public service to Alaska and Anchorage, beginning with his work as staffer and aide to Bob Bartlett while Bartlett was still the territorial delegate for Alaska. He will be joined for the Forum by his son, **Andy Josephson**. This will be a good opportunity to learn some history and say goodbye to Joe as he nears his retirement.

Thank you,
John

Justice, Equity, Transformation, Pluralism, Interdependence, and Generosity.



Sunday Worship 11:00 AM Sunday September 22, 2024

IN PERSON & on Zoom

Principles to Values to JETPIG!

Rev. Lise Sherry, Maribeth Snell

Sunday Worship Live at AUUF & on Zoom 11:00 am Sunday, September 22, 2024

At our 2024 General Assembly, we voted to update our principles to values. There is joy around this change, and some grief as well. And, already, folks are leaning into the change and coming up with creative ideas of how to teach about our new values. Enter JETPIG! Join us on Sunday to find out what this is all about!

[Click here to join on Zoom.](#)

Ring! Ring! Ring! Hello, Small Group Ministry is Calling . . .

Would you like an opportunity to get to know a group of people at AUUF on a more personal, deeper level? Would you like to learn how to listen to others, and be listened to without any mixed agendas? Would you like an excuse to share snacks and laughter, just because? Would you like the chance to work with others to do something for our congregation or our wider community? If any of this sounds appealing to you, then we hope you'll sign up for Small Group Ministry!

Small Group Ministry (also known as Chalice Circles, Covenant Groups and probably more names I'm not aware of) has been around in UU congregations since the late 1990s. They were formed for all the reasons listed above, and to help us explore and define what's most important to us as Unitarian Universalists. Our congregation often uses the SoulMatters curriculum to help us focus our conversations, or we simply discuss in our group what we'd like to talk about and go from there.

Below are some components and commitments present at each meeting:

- Each group has six to twelve members, including a facilitator.
- Each group meets 1-2 times a month on a regular basis for 6-7 months.
- Participants commit to coming to the group meetings (the occasional missed meeting is okay, but attending is the norm) to build community with each other.
- Each meeting starts with a Chalice Lighting and personal check-in.
- Each person has an opportunity to discuss their thoughts about the topic for an uninterrupted time (deep listening) before the group goes to conversation mode.
- The group respects confidentiality and each person's journey.
- Everyone gets a chance to bring and share their favorite finger food.
- The group decides what project they'd like to work on to benefit the community. (It could be providing something for our auction, hosting a Soup Sunday, walking

together in a fundraiser, etc.)

AUUF has hosted Small Group Ministry for several years, with many folks rejoining every year. Susan Orlansky will be hosting a week-evening group beginning in November, Rev. Lise may host a group, and we are talking to others who might be interested in hosting a group as well. Maybe that's you?

If you have more questions, or are interested in attending or hosting, please email Rev. Lise at RevLise@AnchorageUUF.org with your availability and Small Group Ministry in the subject line.

Pre-Kick-off to 2024/2025 RE Classes

If you have not done so, register your kids for RE classes this Sunday!

Official classes with our SoulMatters curricula begin October 6

Kids are welcome to join the new DRE, Jennifer Bluntach, and helpers downstairs this Sunday, September 15 and next Sunday, September 22 for games, stories and time for us all to get to know one another.

Bring warm clothes to play outside on September 22 and we'll make s'mores outside as our snack!

Online RE Registration for 2024/2025 is now available.

[Click here to register.](#)

Coming of Age begins in October!



Structure & Session Overview

(6/12/23 version)

Belonging

Heart of it:

- What values, beliefs, attitudes, practices, views, habits, and ways of viewing the world have been passed on to you by your communities of belonging?
- This stage of the journey is about **uncovering and noticing!** i.e., bringing awareness to your passed-on views and values so you can move on in the next stage of the journey (Becoming) to discern which views and values you want to hold on to and which you want to let go of.
- It's about noticing not only the gifts you've been given but also the problematic and inauthentic "inheritances."

Becoming

Heart of it:

- What is my unique form of becoming? How will I **navigate** the challenges of becoming?
- Where Belonging focused on **uncovering and noticing**, this stage of the journey focuses on **equipping and differentiation**. i.e., achieving a sense of authentic identity and unique self & discerning what from your given communities you want to hold on to and let go of. This is the stage of asking questions such as, What feels like it is "mine" What am I questioning? What of my heritage do I want to take with me, and what do I need to leave behind?

Beyond

Heart of it:

- What is beyond me? What is my relationship to that which is beyond myself?
- Whereas Becoming focused on **equipping and differentiation**, Beyond focuses on **exploring and committing**.
- The first three sessions in this section focus on youth **exploring** a few of life's big questions. The last three sessions focus on three of life's big commitments.

[Click her to view/ download a larger image.](#)

The Coming of Age Program for youth in Grades 8-10 (as well as High School juniors and seniors who have not had the opportunity to go through the program) will begin in October!

[Register with this link...](#)

Please don't hesitate to reach out to me with any questions.

Jennifer Bluntach, DRE

dre@anchorageuuf.org

RE Teacher/Helper Orientation Rescheduled

RE Teacher/Volunteer Orientation has been rescheduled for Saturday, September 21 from 9 am-1pm downstairs at the Fellowship.

TIME FOR 2025 HALF PORTION NOMINATIONS

Dennis Arashiro and Sara Hannon

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WHY: 5th Principle: The Right of Conscience and the Use of the Democratic Process Within Our Congregations and in Society at Large.

HOW: [Click here to declare your nominations.](#)

Join Our Anti-Racism Team Book Read!

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by E.J.R. DAVID

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Social Action Opportunities

Volunteers Needed for Family Emergency Cold Weather Shelter

AUUF is entering its 3rd year of helping at the emergency cold weather shelter for families (children and adults in a duplex in a neighborhood in Anchorage). We provide staffing coverage from 5 PM Tuesday (2 Tuesdays each month) to 9 AM (Wednesday), October through April. The coverage is broken up into shifts of 4 hours or less and there are always at least 2 of us on each shift.

We help with providing dinner, engaging with the guests, helping everyone get settled down for the evening (each family has their own room), making sure all are safe during the night, and helping the kids get off to school in the morning by calling established taxis.

If you think you might be interested in joining our volunteer team, please see Dennis in the social room after services on Sundays, or call me, Michele, at 907-341-9249.

This is a rewarding way to help those in need.

An Easy Social Action Activity : Please join the Anti-Racism team in the social room after the 11:00 service on Sunday, September 22nd, to help stuff envelopes for the ACLU Prison Project. Each month, the ACLU sends out a newsletter to individuals who are incarcerated in Alaska prisons, giving them important updated legal information as well as some human interest items. This not only helps these individuals remain informed but also let's them know they are not forgotten. Who doesn't like to get mail, right? There will be a small group of us there for a couple of hours. Please consider joining us, for as little time or as long as you like. Thanks. (Michele Champion, 907-341-9249)



**Half Portion
Recipient**



September 2024 HALF PORTION FOR SOCIAL ACTION: Food Bank of Alaska

Hunger is a reality for many in our community, though it's often hidden. Nearly 45 percent of families seeking food assistance in Alaska have at least one working member, and almost 65 percent are facing unpaid medical bills. With 1 in 8 Alaskans, or around 94,000 people, needing food assistance, hunger is closer than we might think.

Children and seniors are particularly affected. Over 1 in 6 children in Alaska face food insecurity, and 9 percent of seniors are at risk of hunger, placing Alaska 12th in the nation

for senior hunger risk. Social Security is the main source of income for 18 percent of those relying on Alaska's food distribution network.

Food Bank of Alaska, committed to eliminating hunger, distributed 6.7 million pounds of food last year through nearly 150 partner agencies. Their efforts included serving **50,119 children's meals**, distributing **22,998 senior food boxes**, and providing over **5 million meals to those in need**. During the Thanksgiving Blessing program, **9,997 families received holiday meals**, and **79 rural sites** were supported statewide. Additionally, **629,343 meals** were secured through SNAP outreach.

September is **Hunger Action Month**, a nationwide effort to raise awareness about hunger in America and inspire action. This month, as we reflect on the reality of hunger in our own state, let's join in the collective effort to make a difference.

This work is made possible by 1,064 volunteers who contributed 17,628 hours to help fight hunger. Every meal and every hour of service is a step toward a more just and compassionate society.

For more information or to get involved, visit www.foodbankofalaska.org or follow them on Facebook.

Go to anchorageuuf.org
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"



Support Grow North Farmers!

The last day of the farm is coming quickly! Farmers will be selling produce every Thursday until September 26th at Grow North Farm.

Grow North Farm provides a space for agricultural entrepreneurs with a refugee background to launch or support their agriculture and food-based business. Come shop local and enjoy fresh veggies every Thursday from 4:00-7:00 p.m. at Grow North Farm (3601 Mountainview Dr. Anchorage, AK 99508).

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 Tu 11-3; Th and F 11-3, and by appointment

Congregational Administrator, 907-248-3737 x1
Admin@anchorageuuf.org
Usually Monday - Tuesday & Thursday- Friday 11:00 am-3:00 pm.
Please call before coming.

Jennifer Bluntach (she/her) Director of Religious Exploration
DRE@anchorageuuf.org
Office hours usually are:
Sunday 9am-3pm, Tuesday 9am-3pm, Wednesday 9am-3pm, Thursday 9-3pm and
Friday 9 am-12 pm

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

Esme Danner (she/her) Music Director
907-248-3737 x4
Music@anchorageuuf.org

Dan Norton: AV Coordinator
907-248-3737 x5,

AVCoordinator@anchorageuuf.org

Contact the Connections Team for more information on how to get involved.

Connections@anchorageuuf.org

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UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST
FELLOWSHIP
*diverse beliefs,
common purpose.*

Today At Our Fellowship
Thursday, September 26, 2024

This Weekend @ AUUF

Thursday 9/26/24

6:30 pm Choir Practice

Friday 9/27/24

Fall Frolic starts- King's Lake

8:15 am Private Rental

12:00-2:00 pm Freethinkers, In-Person

Saturday 9/28/24

Fall Frolic continues- King's Lake

8:30-10:30 am AA Slap Happy Group

10:30 am-12:45 pm Private Rental

Sunday 9/29/24

9:00 am The Forum In- Person & on
ZOOM

11:00 am Sunday Worship In- Person &
on ZOOM

Sunday continued

4:00 pm Anchorage Friends Meeting

Monday 9/30/24

3:30 pm Private Rental

6:30 pm Private Rental

Tuesday 10/1/24

Off-site Family cold weather shelter
opens

4:30 pm Forum Planning Meeting

6:00-7:00 pm Community Connection

Wednesday 10/2/24

3:15 pm Private Rental

5:00-8:00 pm Connections Team Meeting

7:00-8:30 pm Buildings & Grounds Team
Meeting

Thursday 10/3/24

5:30 pm Anti-Racism Team Meeting

6:30 pm Choir Practice



Remembering U.S. Senator Bob Bartlett



The Forum 9:00 AM Sunday September 29, 2024 IN PERSON & on Zoom

Remembering U.S. Senator Bob Bartlett

Joe Josephson, former State Senator and Bartlett Aide, with Andy Josephson

The Forum Live at AUUF & on Zoom

9:00 am Sunday, September 29, 2024

[Click here to join on Zoom.](#)

[Click here for Speaker's bio.](#)



Sunday Worship 11:00 AM Sunday September 29, 2024

IN PERSON & on Zoom

BE AWARE OF SELF-CARE! with Dennis Arashiro

Sunday Worship Live at AUUF & on Zoom

11:00 am Sunday, September 29, 2024

BE AWARE OF SELF-CARE!

Dennis Arashiro

September is National Self-Care Awareness Month, a time to remind us all that self-care is as important as other responsibilities. Join us in sharing ways of respecting, protecting and nourishing our own selves in body and spirit.



We're Ready to Receive Your Auction Items!

It's almost October and at AUUF, that means *Auction Season*! The small but mighty auction committee already has collected several bid-worthy items and requests have been sent to local businesses. What can you contribute to spark the bidding? A homemade pie, jams, entrée or pot of hearty soup? A gift certificate from a favorite business? Use of your cabin, kayak or mountain bike? You may drop items off downstairs beginning Sunday, Oct. 6, before or immediately after the 11:00 service. A member of the auction committee will be there to help. A member also will be there Sunday Oct. 13 and 20, as well as 1-3 pm, Tuesdays and 10:30-11:45 Fridays. Questions?

Email the committee at auktion@anchorageuuf.com

New Congregational Administrator Joins AUUF!

The HR Committee and I are pleased to announce that we have hired Richard Stoneking as our new administrator. He started work on September 19 and is learning the ropes quickly. I hope you can introduce yourselves as time allows. As a reminder this is a half-time position (20 hours per week), with 16 hours in the office and four hours flex--either to be at home or the office as fits Richard's schedule. Below is what Richard has to say about himself.



"Richard comes to AUUF after gathering vast experiences both near and far. Most recently he was serving in the public accounting field doing everything from audits in the bush to taxes for clients with a slough of activities located across the nation. Now he's hoping to contribute his focus, organization, and hospitality to AUUF's congregation. Primarily working in the afternoons he plans to be available for any problem solving that you may face, simply stop by the offices upstairs and maybe you'll get to catch him in action."

Blessings, Rev. Lise

Friends & Family CPR Class

The AUUF Safer Congregations Team will be having a Friends and Family CPR Class on Tuesday, October 8th from 6 to 8pm in Rooms 5 and 7 downstairs. Nurses from Providence will be teaching us CPR skills and other helpful information. We have space for 10 people to participate.

To sign up contact Linda McCool - msmccool@hotmail.com - please put CPR Class in the subject line.

Nominations for Yearly Awards

The Board of Directors is taking nominations for the congregation's yearly awards. Nominations will be accepted through October 16th.

If you would like to submit a nomination, please send it to Kath Rutherford, board member, at krutherford13@gmail.com or 530-636-3019.

There are three awards that will be given out:

Volunteer of the Year Award: An award designed to recognize individuals or groups who have gone above and beyond in support of the AUUF mission.

Fred Hillman Distinguished Service Award: Named after long-time AUUF member and former Board president Dr. Fred Hillman, who passed away in 2014. Like its namesake, this award is meant to honor individuals who live the Seven Principals as part of their everyday life and who have made significant contributions to AUUF.

Shirley Dickens Memorial Tribute: Our recognition of a deceased member of the AUUF Fellowship. Those receiving this honor do so in recognition of their non-financial, extraordinary, long-term contribution to The Fellowship; an exceptional, end-of-life or single financial contribution to AUUF; or because of significant and distinguished contributions to the broader community.

Ring! Ring! Ring! Hello, Small Group Ministry is Calling . . .

Would you like an opportunity to get to know a group of people at AUUF on a more personal, deeper level? Would you like to learn how to listen to others, and be listened to without any mixed agendas? Would you like an excuse to share snacks and laughter, just because? Would you like the chance to work with others to do something for our congregation or our wider community? If any of this sounds appealing to you, then we hope you'll sign up for Small Group Ministry!

Small Group Ministry (also known as Chalice Circles, Covenant Groups and probably more names I'm not aware of) has been around in UU congregations since the late 1990s. They were formed for all the reasons listed above, and to help us explore and define what's most important to us as Unitarian Universalists. Our congregation often uses the SoulMatters curriculum to help us focus our conversations, or we simply discuss in our group what we'd like to talk about and go from there.

Below are some components and commitments present at each meeting:

- Each group has six to twelve members, including a facilitator.
- Each group meets 1-2 times a month on a regular basis for 6-7 months.
- Participants commit to coming to the group meetings (the occasional missed meeting is okay, but attending is the norm) to build community with each other.
- Each meeting starts with a Chalice Lighting and personal check-in.
- Each person has an opportunity to discuss their thoughts about the topic for an uninterrupted time (deep listening) before the group goes to conversation mode.
- The group respects confidentiality and each person's journey.
- Everyone gets a chance to bring and share their favorite finger food.
- The group decides what project they'd like to work on to benefit the community. (It could be providing something for our auction, hosting a Soup Sunday, walking

together in a fundraiser, etc.)

AUUF has hosted Small Group Ministry for several years, with many folks rejoining every year. Susan Orlansky will be hosting a week-evening group beginning in November, Rev. Lise may host a group, and we are talking to others who might be interested in hosting a group as well. Maybe that's you?

If you have more questions, or are interested in attending or hosting, please email Rev. Lise at RevLise@AnchorageUUF.org with your availability and Small Group Ministry in the subject line.

Online RE Registration for 2024/2025 is now available.

[Click here to register.](#)

Coming of Age begins in October!



Structure & Session Overview

(6/12/23 version)

Belonging

Heart of it:

- What values, beliefs, attitudes, practices, views, habits, and ways of viewing the world have been passed on to you by your communities of belonging?
- This stage of the journey is about **uncovering and noticing!** i.e., bringing awareness to your passed-on views and values so you can move on in the next stage of the journey (Becoming) to discern which views and values you want to hold on to and which you want to let go of.
- It's about noticing not only the gifts you've been given but also the problematic and inauthentic "inheritances."

Becoming

Heart of it:

- What is my unique form of becoming? How will I **navigate** the challenges of becoming?
- Where Belonging focused on **uncovering and noticing**, this stage of the journey focuses on **equipping and differentiation**. i.e., achieving a sense of authentic identity and unique self & discerning what from your given communities you want to hold on to and let go of. This is the stage of asking questions such as, What feels like it is "mine"? What am I questioning? What of my heritage do I want to take with me, and what do I need to leave behind?

Beyond

Heart of it:

- What is beyond me? What is my relationship to that which is beyond myself?
- Whereas Becoming focused on **equipping and differentiation**, Beyond focuses on **exploring and committing**.
- The first three sessions in this section focus on youth **exploring a few of life's big questions**. The last three sessions focus on three of life's big commitments.

[Click her to view/ download a larger image.](#)

The Coming of Age Program for youth in Grades 8-10 (as well as High School juniors and seniors who have not had the opportunity to go through the program) will begin in October!

[Register with this link...](#)

Please don't hesitate to reach out to me with any questions.

Jennifer Bluntach, DRE
dre@anchorageuuf.org

Submit your HALF PORTION NOMINATIONS by Oct 1!

Dennis Arashiro and Sara Hannon

Our Fellowship donates half of our Sunday collections each month to a charitable cause selected by our congregation through the democratic process. Please nominate the causes you find worthy [here](#) and read more below:

WHAT: Now is the time to put forth your nominations for next year's Half Portion for Social Action. Your passion for the causes you support can fuel effective positive action by identifying those receiving half the Sunday collections for a month.

WHO: Name the charitable funds or organizations you are nominating. They should have tax exempt status, usually designated as a 501(c)(3) organization. They should have a mission consistent with our principles and a demonstrated record of effective action.

WHEN: Nominations are due by October 1, 2024. After a period of vetting nominees, you will be given the opportunity to vote from October 13 to November 1 for 10 nominees as recipients of the monthly Half Portion for Social Action for 2025. The final schedule for the 2025 Half Portion will be announced on November 17.

WHY: 5th Principle: The Right of Conscience and the Use of the Democratic Process Within Our Congregations and in Society at Large.

HOW: [Click here to declare your nominations.](#)

Sunday Lunch Potluck at AUUF October 6

The Connections Team is hosting a lunch potluck at 12:30 in the social room at AUUF Sunday October 6. We had been trying to schedule one every 5th Sunday, but instead are thinking about working around the RE's Soup Sunday schedule to provide more opportunities to socialize. Connections will provide some soups or other main dishes, and handle the set-up, clean-up. Please bring a side item, salad or dessert. See you there!

Sign Up Today for Finding Your Way into Fellowship!

Are you ready to learn a whole lot more about UU and AUUF? Please sign up ASAP if you plan to attend our next Finding Your Way into Fellowship class, which is 3 sessions scheduled for Wednesday evenings Oct. 9, 16, 23 from 6:30-8:30. This class is for newer folks or people ready to become members of AUUF. You will discover how AUUF might fit into your own spiritual journey and you'll meet some new friends along the way.

Email connections@anchorageuuf.org for questions or to sign up or to let us know of times that work better! We may postpone to different dates. if there aren't enough enrollees.

Join Our Anti-Racism Team Book Read!

JOIN OUR ANTI-RACISM TEAM GROUP READ!

WE HAVE NOT STOPPED TREMBLING YET:

LETTERS TO MY FILIPINO-ATHABASCAN FAMILY

by E.J.R. DAVID

Associate Professor of Psychology at the University of Alaska Anchorage, Dr. David, in a series of letters to his mixed-race Filipino-Athabascan family, explores the deep effects of colonialism and racial oppression that his children are confronted with. Weaving together deeply personal memories, family experiences and empirical data, he engages us in a journey of learning and healing.

Please join the Anti-Racism Team after the Worship Service in person in the Fellowship Library or online through the link provided on the AUUF website to discuss the many issues raised in the readings on:

SUNDAYS, 12:30 - 2 PM,

OCTOBER 20

NOVEMBER 3

NOVEMBER 17

David's memoir can be ordered on Amazon, Barnes and Noble and The Writer's Block. Copies are also available through the Loussac Library. If you have any questions, please contact Dennis Arashiro at the Social Justice Table in the Social Room at the Fellowship on Sundays or at elvischannel@yahoo.com.

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Half Portion Recipient

FOOD BANK
of ALASKA



September 2024 HALF PORTION FOR SOCIAL ACTION: Food Bank of Alaska

Hunger is a reality for many in our community, though it's often hidden. Nearly 45 percent of families seeking food assistance in Alaska have at least one working member, and almost 65 percent are facing unpaid medical bills. With 1 in 8 Alaskans, or around 94,000 people, needing food assistance, hunger is closer than we might think.

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Go to anchorageuuf.org
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”

come together

2024 LGBTQ
advocacy summit

October 12
9am-5pm

*Dinner at 5:15pm

St. Mary's
Episcopal Church
2222 E Tudor Rd
Anchorage, AK

PLUS
Jennifer Knapp
live in concert at 7pm

Scan for
more info



Christians for Equality
Anchorage, Alaska

Come Together
2024 LGBTQ Advocacy Summit

October 12

St. Mary's Episcopal Church

a conference for the progressive Christian community,
LGBTQ+ community members, advocates, friends, family, and allies

Please share with your community about the upcoming conference.

[Registration and schedule here.](#)

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Anchorage Unitarian Universalist Fellowship
(907) 248-3737

Rev. Lise Adams Sherry, (she/ her), Minister,
RevLise@anchorageuuf.org, 907-248-3737 x2,
Office hours are usually Tu 11-3; Th and F 11-3, and by appointment

Rebecca Bernard, (she/ her), Affiliated Community Minister
RBernard.AK@gmail.com

Richard Stoneking, (he/him), Congregational Administrator
Admin@AnchorageUUF.org, 907.248.3737 x.1
Office Hours Usually Mon-Thu 11am - 3 pm, Please call first.

Jennifer Bluntach (she/her), Director of Religious Exploration
DRE@anchorageuuf.org
Office hours usually are:

Sunday 9am-11am, Tuesday 11am-3pm, Thursday, 11am-3pm, Friday, 11am-12pm and

by appointment

Kelly Spring, (she/ her), Communications Specialist,

Communications@anchorageuuf.org

Kelly's remote office hours Mon-Fri 9 am -1 pm

Esme Danner (she/her) Music Director

907-248-3737 x4, Music@anchorageuuf.org

Dan Norton: AV Coordinator

907-248-3737 x5, AVCoordinator@anchorageuuf.org

Contact the Connections Team for more information on how to get involved.

Connections@anchorageuuf.org

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ANCHORAGE
UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST
FELLOWSHIP
*diverse beliefs,
common purpose.*

Today At Your Fellowship

Thursday, October 5, 2023

This Weekend @ AUUF

Find Zoom [links here.](#)

Thursday 10/5/23

6:30 pm Choir Rehearsal

Friday 10/6/23

9:15 am Music Together Mountain Song

12:00 pm Freethinkers at AUUF only

Saturday 10/7/23

8:30 am AA Slap Happy Group

8:30 am-12:15 pm Music Together
Mountain Song

Sunday 10/8/23

**Collection and display of auction
items begins**

9:00 am Virtual Forum only ZOOM

**11:00 am Sunday Worship Live at
AUUF & on Zoom**

Sunday 10/8/2 continued

12:30 pm Social Action Council

12:30 pm The Alliance

2:30 pm Worship Associate Meeting

4:00 pm Anchorage Friends Meeting

Monday 10/9/23

Indigenous People Day Offices closed

6:30 pm Fireweed Sangha of Mindful
Living- Private Rental Visitors welcome

Tuesday 10/3/23

2:00 pm Hungry Book Club

5:30 pm Finance Committee Meeting

6:00 pm Private Rental

Wednesday 10/4/23

11:00 am Private rental

5:00 pm Connections Team Meeting

7:00 pm Building & Grounds Meeting

**Half Portion Recipient for October:
[The Anchorage Coalition to End
Homelessness](#)**



Virtual Forum only on Zoom 9:00 am Sunday, October 8, 2023
The Evolution of UU Principles
Rev. Lise Adams Sherry

Virtual Forum only on Zoom
9 am Sunday, October 8, 2023

[Click here to join on Zoom.](#)
[Click here for the Speaker's bio.](#)



Sunday Worship at AUUF & on Zoom 11:00 am Sunday,
October 8, 2023
Viva Latinx
Rev. Lise Adams Sherry & Michele Champion

Sunday Worship at AUUF & on Zoom
11 am Sunday, October 8, 2023

[Click here to join on Zoom.](#)

Hospitality Help Needed This Sunday

The Connections Team wants to make sure we have greeters and social hour help this Sunday. The Sign-Up Genius is a tool we use so that people can see who has already signed

up for these important tasks. Please click the link below to sign up for open slots in October. Contact Denise Martin if you have questions or need assistance. Thanks to all who are helping!



How About Sharing Your PFD!

by Marie Lundstrom
Stewardship Committee

It's here—that magical money that keeps the Legislature haggling every year, the PFD! And where will it go in your household? Could you spare a piece of it for AUUF? We are likely looking at another budget shortfall, so every pledge that gets increased and every gift over and above your pledge will be most welcome to cut down that deficit. Every dollar matters, in whatever form.

Sharing some of your PFD with AUUF is one way to make a nearly painless gift. Since it has just arrived, and is most likely still unspent, consider sharing part of it with your AUUF neighbors. Just write and send a check in the mail, if you make payments that way. Or for credit card payment, go to the AUUF website and click on Donate. In the form that comes up, enter your donation to the operating fund (or other fund). It's easy, and you'll hardly notice it. But AUUF will notice and thank you for it.

And here's a limerick to help you remember:
The PFD has arrived at long last
Which usually gets spent down pretty fast
For UU, save a part
As a gift from the heart
Use what's left on a glorious blast!

Freethinkers

Freethinkers discussion group meets every Friday at 12:00pm - 1:30pm in Room 7 downstairs at AUUF. We just finished reading *A History of the World in Six Glasses*, by Tom Standage. This is a fascinating read linking the history of beer, wine, spirits, tea, coffee, and coca cola to major world developments through the centuries. Some of the fascinating facts include a discussion of Caribbean sugar being used by the English colonies to produce rum which accounted for 80% of their exports at times. This economic connection was a big factor in the American Revolution. Similarly, the tea trade led to the Opium Wars when the British were seeking some commodity to trade for tea.

We had 18 titles nominated for this round. View the detailed information for a selection of some very thought-provoking books.

At our Sept 29 meeting, we selected our next two books. There was an exchange of what we know about some of the books and some advocacy. In the end, Cari made a list on a poster board and we each gave her our choices. We will take up *Elon Musk* by Walter Isaacson which was nominated by Jim Wanamaker on October 6. After that book, we will read *A Thousand Trails Home* by Seth Kantor.

We will read the introductory material and the first nine chapters of *Elon Musk* for next week.

Small groups

Looking for community? Want to make new friends? Want an opportunity to practice listening to each other? Consider joining a Small Group.

A Small Group – also sometimes called a Chalice Circle – is a group of about 6-12 AUUF members and friends who commit to gather on a regular basis, typically every other week, for a total of about ten to fifteen sessions during the “school year” to share community and conversation in a structured format described as active listening. The group will pick a topic in advance – usually something like Gratitude, Friendship, Sadness, or Adventure. A good topic gives people opportunities to share stories about their lives, their dreams, or how they think about some of life’s big questions. A designated leader tries to keep the group, gently, on track.

Each group develops its own character and rituals, but most start by lighting a chalice to signify we are in a special place. It’s not a committee meeting. It’s not just a group of friends chatting. Usually, people “check in” – share what they’ve been up to lately and what they are leaving behind to be fully present for the group. Often there are some readings.

[Click here to read the entire article.](#)

Ready, Set, Die....

We plan for life’s big events, birth, marriage, why not death?

The goal of this workshop is to address physical, psycho-social, intellectual and spiritual concerns and desires surrounding death, eliminating surprises to survivors and increasing the likelihood that your wishes and desires around death will be carried out.

This interactive workshop utilizes a variety of individual and group activities for skill development in these areas:

- Defining for one’s self what constitutes a “good” death.
- Examining and dispelling common fears around death.
- Building a tool chest of essential information to design a pathway for your loved ones.
- Use of various communication means for farewells to friends and loved ones.
- Explore and strengthen spiritual aspects of your personal death plan.

Teresa Zimmer (RN/educator) and TK Kleiner (retired attorney/educator) share a passion for normalizing death and transforming the way we approach it. We believe that death planning promotes well-being and peace of mind for you and your survivors.

This workshop will be time well spent, as you join with others to make plans for this important transition.

Ready, Set, Die

This workshop will be held at AUUF,
2824 East 18th Avenue
Thursday, October 12, 2023, 9:30-2:30 pm
Box Lunch included (vegetarian and omnivore options)
UU discount \$120 for individuals, \$220 for couples, and all others
\$130 individuals; couples, \$240

Registration fee is due at the time of registration, by check or Venmo
To register, please email ready.set.die.workshops@gmail.com or call Teresa at 907.331.7034, or TK at 907.317.2799
Registration is due by Oct. 8, 2023. Class size is limited.

Spread the Word: Do Friends & Family Have Possible Auction Items?

It's amazing what our auction committee has already collected just by talking up the event with friends and neighbors. We have two sets of brand new snowshoes, a gorgeous watercolor by Homer artist Jan Peyton, a paint night with art educator Megan Henry and a yarn tote and generous gift card from Cabin Fever. What do your friends and neighbors have that could spark some heated bidding? Well, now's the time to ask, as we begin collecting items downstairs at AUUF. Starting this Sunday, you may bring your donations to Room 2, fill out a short entry form and leave them for us to photograph and enter into the data base. And remember, gifts of time and talent are also very popular. What can you share? Questions? Email us at auction@anchorageuuf.com

Finding Your Way to Fellowship Classes / Connections Team coming soon!

If you are newer to AUUF, perhaps interested in membership, or simply want to learn more about the UU Fellowship, we invite you to participate in the next "Finding Your Way into Fellowship" 3-session class (October 15, 22 and 29). These are held on 3 consecutive Sunday afternoons, and offer folks time to really learn about UU, AUUF, and how it fits into their own spiritual journey. The classes will be in person at AUUF and are conducted by Rev. Lise and members of the Connections Team. Plan on having lunch on us, and begin each class at 12:30 until about 2:00.

Please email connections@anchorageuuf.org for questions or to sign up. We look forward to seeing you there!

CPR Class at AUUF

October 14th from 1:30 to 5:30 pm

Contact Linda to sign up. (msmccool@hotmail.com)

It is a "Friends & Family" course. October 14th from 1:30 to 5:30 pm

There is room for 10 -12 participants.

Thank you.
Linda McCool

Director of Religious Exploration Position

This position is open to AUUF friends and members, too.

Title: Director of Religious Exploration

Fair Labor Standards Act Status: Salaried Exempt Position

Hours Required: Full time. Start date as soon as possible.

Salary and Benefits: Based on Midsize I, Geoindex 5 congregation per UUA guidelines.
Benefits

include pension, professional expenses, paid vacation and study time. Salary up to \$58,000 based on experience.

[Click here to read the full job description.](#)

Music Director Position

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We are hiring a part-time music director to play the piano for our 11 am services, direct our choir during the school year, and be part of the worship team to select music to add to the theme of the service. If you know someone who you think would be a good fit with us, please refer them to our website or forward the linked job description. The position is open until filled.

Apply with a cover letter and resume to Rev. Lise.

[Click here to read the full job description.](#)



ANCHORAGE COALITION TO
END HOMELESSNESS

HALF PORTION FOR SOCIAL ACTION:

The Anchorage Coalition to End Homelessness

The Anchorage Coalition to End Homelessness is the lead agency for the Continuum of Care for the Homelessness Prevention and Response System. Our mission is to provide dynamic leadership to make homelessness rare, brief, and one-time. The coalition works with the Department of Housing and Urban Development to identify and target housing and services to move people from homelessness to stably housed. The role of a Continuum of Care is to ensure that anyone who becomes homeless has the appropriate services available to them to move into housing, and to coordinate with the homeless service providers to understand where the gaps in services are and how programs are performing. The goal of all programs is to move people into housing.

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The coalition was founded in 2004, and has grown in the past two decades to include outreach to our unsheltered and camping neighbors and provide advocacy at the local, state and national levels. The coalition appreciates when community groups engage with our work and look forward to providing education about homelessness and housing first to your congregation.

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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,
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Office hours are usually Tues 11- 3 pm, Th & Fri 10 am - 2 pm and by appointment.

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Director of Lifespan Learning & Exploration,

Contact the Connections Team for more information on how to get involved at AUUF

Connections@AnchorageUUF.org

Connect with us



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AUUF Podcast

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ANCHORAGE
UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST
FELLOWSHIP
*diverse beliefs,
common purpose.*

Today At Your Fellowship

Thursday, October 12, 2023

This Weekend @ AUUF

Find Zoom [links here.](#)

Thursday 10/12/23

All day
Collection & Display Auction Items

5:30 pm CYRE Team Meeting

5:30 pm Board Agenda Setting Meeting

6:30 pm Choir Rehearsal

Friday 10/13/23

9:15 am Music Together Mountain Song
12:00 pm Freethinkers at AUUF only

Saturday 10/14/23

8:30 am AA Slap Happy Group

8:30 am-12:15 pm Music Together
Mountain Song

1:30 pm CPR Class
7:00 pm Private Rental

Sunday 10/15/23

Collection and display of auction
items continues

9:00 am The Forum IN PERSON & on
ZOOM

11:00 am Sunday Worship IN-
PERSON at AUUF & on Zoom

Sunday 10/16/23 continued

12:30 pm Finding your way to
Fellowship Newcomers & Explorers
class

4:00 pm Anchorage Friends Meeting

Monday 10/17/23

10:30 am Nominating Committee on
Zoom
4:30 pm Private Rental
6:30 pm Fireweed Sangha of Mindful
Living- Private Rental Visitors welcome

Tuesday 10/18/23

Wednesday 10/19/23

Half Portion Recipient for October:
[The Anchorage Coalition to End
Homelessness](#)



The Forum IN PERSON & on Zoom 9 am Sunday, October 15, 2023
The Alaska Innocence Project—Past and Future
Bill Oberly

The Forum IN PERSON & on Zoom 9 am Sunday, October 15, 2023

[Click here to join on Zoom.](#)
[Click here for the Speaker's bio.](#)

Sunday Worship at AUUF & on Zoom 11 am Sunday, October 15, 2023

[Click here to join on Zoom.](#)

Sunday Hospitality Hospitality Helpers Needed

Please consider volunteering; slots available for both 9 am Forum and 11 am Service this Sunday — greeters and social hour hosts. Please sign up if you're able to help by clicking on the link below. Future Sundays have slots to be filled as well. Thank you!



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There is room for 10 -12 participants.

Thank you.
Linda McCool

Small groups

Looking for community? Want to make new friends? Want an opportunity to practice listening to each other? Consider joining a Small Group.

A Small Group – also sometimes called a Chalice Circle – is a group of about 6-12 AUUF members and friends who commit to gather on a regular basis, typically every other week, for a total of about ten to fifteen sessions during the "school year" to share community and conversation in a structured format described as active listening. The group will pick a topic in advance – usually something like Gratitude, Friendship, Sadness, or Adventure. A good topic gives people opportunities to share stories about their lives, their dreams, or how they think about some of life's big questions. A designated leader tries to keep the group, gently, on track.

Each group develops its own character and rituals, but most start by lighting a chalice to signify we are in a special place. It's not a committee meeting. It's not just a group of friends chatting. Usually, people "check in" – share what they've been up to lately and what they are leaving behind to be fully present for the group. Often there are some readings.

[Click here to read the entire article.](#)

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The coalition was founded in 2004, and has grown in the past two decades to include outreach to our unsheltered and camping neighbors and provide advocacy at the local, state and national levels. The coalition appreciates when community groups engage with our work and look forward to providing education about homelessness and housing first to your congregation.

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Contact the Connections Team for more information on how to get involved
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Connect with us



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AUUF Podcast

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ANCHORAGE
UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST
FELLOWSHIP
*diverse beliefs,
common purpose.*

Today At Your Fellowship

Thursday, October 19, 2023

This Weekend @ AUUF

Find Zoom [links here.](#)

Thursday 10/19/23

Collection and display of Auction Items continues daily this week.

6:30 pm Board of Directors Meeting

6:30 pm Choir Rehearsal

Friday 10/20/23

9:15 am Music Together Mountain Song

12:00 pm Freethinkers at AUUF only

Saturday 10/21/23

8:30 am AA Slap Happy Group

8:30 am-12:15 pm Music Together Mountain Song

1-3:00 pm Private Rental

Sunday 10/22/23

9:00 am Virtual Forum only on ZOOM

11:00 am Sunday Worship IN-PERSON at AUUF only

Sunday 10/23/2 continued

12:30 pm Finding your way to Fellowship Newcomers & Explorers class

4:00 pm Anchorage Friends Meeting

Monday 10/24/23

4:30 pm Private Rental

6:30 pm Fireweed Sangha of Mindful Living- Private Rental Visitors welcome

Tuesday 10/25/23

6:00 pm Community Connections

Wednesday 10/26/23

6:30 pm Anti-Racism "Defund Fear" Book Study

Half Portion Recipient for October:

[The Anchorage Coalition to End Homelessness](#)



Virtual Forum only on Zoom 9 am Sunday, October 22, 2023
Former Attorney General Doug Baily
The Tanker Rebecca Incident: Alaska Comes of Age as an Oil State

Virtual Forum only on Zoom
9 am Sunday, October 22, 2023

[Click here to join on Zoom.](#)
[Click here for the Speaker's bio.](#)

Sunday, October 22, 2023 Zoom Only

Former Attorney General Doug Baily
"The Tanker Rebecca Incident: Alaska Comes of Age as an Oil State"

Doug Baily was the Attorney General of Alaska from 1989 to 1990, under Gov. Steve Cowper. Prior that, he served as administrative assistant to Governor Jay Hammond, and as a trustee of the Alaska Permanent Fund. Before becoming a lawyer in 1965, Doug engaged in oil exploration in Alaska. From 1968 to 1971, he was the U.S. Attorney for the District of Alaska, and had principal responsibility for designing and conducting the state's legal case against the *Rebecca* and her captain in 1968. The Exxon Valdez oil spill on March 24, 1989, occurred during his tenure as AG. After the spill, Attorney General Baily filed multiple court cases against Exxon Corporation and the Alyeska Pipeline Service Company. Doug now lives in Homer his wife Landa, after moving back to Alaska from Oakland, Oregon, where they maintained the Old Baily Heritage Farm, raising rare breeds of American Livestock, including Myotonic Goats, Dexter Cattle, and America Guinea Hogs.

Sunday, October 29, 2023 IN PERSON & on Zoom

Meg Zaletel, Anchorage Assembly Member and
Executive Director, Anchorage Coalition to End Homelessness
"Anchorage's Housing Crisis—What You Need to Know"

Fresh out of law school, Meg took a job in Anchorage, sight unseen, representing Alaskans experiencing disabilities. This job brought her to Alaska, let her travel throughout the state, and gave her valuable experience working on systemic issues.

As an elected member of the Anchorage Assembly, Meg has been instrumental in expanding the Municipality's work around behavioral health and homelessness, including improving overall public health and safety and the well-being of vulnerable people. Meg has joined the Anchorage Coalition to End Homelessness to apply her experience and expertise. Meg enjoys spending her free time with her husband Zach, their daughter Zelda, three dogs, cat, and four chickens.

The History of UU Fellowships



Sunday Worship Live at AUUF only
11 am Sunday, October 22, 2023
The History of UU Fellowships
Rev. Lise and Joyce Laine

Sunday Worship live at AUUF only

11 am Sunday, October 22, 2023

Reminder: On the fourth Sunday of the month we're giving our AV crew a break, so the 11 am service will be in-person only

The History of UU Fellowships
Rev. Lise and Joyce Laine

The Fellowship movement started in the mid-20th century as a way to spread the good news of Unitarianism when we didn't have enough ministers to serve all the possible congregations. How have these congregations evolved with and without professional leadership, and now that we're facing a shortage of ministers again, what happens next?

October 29, 11 am, in-person & on Zoom
In Memoriam: All Soul's Day

Rev. Lise, Barb Clark, and Maribeth Snell

It's AUUF's annual time of remembrance as we name those cherished congregants who have left us and share mementos of other friends and family members on our altar. Remember to bring a photo or cherished object of your person(s) if you'd like to share in this way.

Sunday Hospitality / Connections

Greeters and Social Hour Help Needed this Sunday!

No one has signed up yet for greeters (there should be 2) for the 11 am service. Help is also needed for the Social Hour. Please consider volunteering so that our visitors feel welcome and want to come again. Just click on the link below and follow the directions. Future Sundays have slots to be filled as well. Thank you!



SIGN UP!



SignUpGenius®

Religious and Ethical Exploration Opportunities for all Ages

Hey folks!

I hope you all are enjoying these beautiful fall days. And as always, the changing light is captivating this time of year.

I wanted to give a big shout-out to the CYRE Team (Children and Youth Religious Exploration) who have been working so hard on Fall Frolic and Sunday morning classes in the absence of having a DRE. Yay, CYRE Team!!!! (AKA Annie Belts, Katie Melrose, Mary Gregory, Dianna Polese, Kalen Saxton, Elayne Hunter, Andee Cordano and recently retired from CYRE Alison Hanson.) Fall Frolic was a lot of fun and we're thinking about ways to provide rides to King's Lake for a Saturday-only option for next year. On Sunday mornings, we still need a few more teachers for the K-5 and middle school classes. Please talk to me or Annie if you can spend a few Sundays a month learning and playing with our children. There are other ways to help our children's program as well, if teaching isn't for you.

If you're wondering how the Sunday morning children's classes are interfacing with 11 am worship, we're doing things a little differently this year.

- First Sunday of the month, children and youth are downstairs in classes.
- Second Sunday, Rev. Lise (me) spends the first 15 minutes downstairs with all children and youth in a Chalice Circle (children's worship) before they go to classes.
- Third Sunday, children and youth are downstairs in classes.
- Fourth Sunday, the children are upstairs for the first part of worship and a Time for All Ages before going downstairs to classes. The high school youth stay upstairs in worship, or help in other RE classes.
- Fifth Sunday, same as first and third Sundays.

For adult-only interactions, we have several options.

- Susan Orlansky is organizing Small Group Communities (Small Group Ministry/Chalice Circles). We hope to be starting those soon.
- Freethinkers (those who read a non-fiction book, discuss, and share snacks) continues to meet at AUUF Fridays at noon.
- The Hungry Book Club continues to meet at AUUF the second Tuesday of the month at 2 pm. (They also share snacks and alternate between fiction and non-fiction.)
- The Anti-Racism Team is hosting a book discussion on Defund Fear Weds., Oct. 25, Nov. 8 and Nov. 29 from 6:30-8 pm at AUUF.

We have a wonderful community here that cares about each other and our world. I hope to see you on Sundays and throughout the week!
Blessings, Rev. Lise

Did you lose a ring?

A ring has been found at AUUF. If it might be yours please contact our AUUF Admin Tammie, at admin@anchorageuuf.org or (907) 248-3737 #1

Auction Donations? Bring In By Sunday, Pretty Please

Okay, folks, we're in the final days of soliciting donations for this year's auction and, wow, do we have some really great stuff! There's like-new outdoor gear, home décor, all sorts of art, puzzles, brand new board games, cozy never-been-

worn slippers and the absolute cutest felted fairy sets you've ever seen. Oh, and a lake front Spanish dinner, Iditarod brunch, nature hikes, bird watching and—just wait-- juggling or music lessons with Jim Kerr. Thank you, thank you, thank you! Your itty-bitty auction committee would be oh-so very grateful if you could bring any remaining items in by this Sunday, or Wednesday at the absolute latest. It takes a fair amount of time to photograph and enter items and to double-check each entry before we go live on-line Saturday, Oct. 28.

Questions? Contact Peggy, Robin, Cathy or Carma or email us at auction@anchorageuuf.org



5th Sunday Potluck

October 29

The AUUF Connections Team invites everyone to attend a potluck at AUUF at 12:30 p.m. after the 11 a.m. service. Grilled food will be provided by volunteers. Please bring a salad, side dish or dessert to share. In addition, please bring your family's own non-paper PLATES, CUPS, UTENSILS etc. to minimize cleanup AND reduce the use of disposable products. The idea is that each family or individual takes their used items home to clean. Hope to see you there!

Director of Religious Exploration Position

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Fair Labor Standards Act Status: Salaried Exempt Position

Hours Required: Full time. Start date as soon as possible.

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include pension, professional expenses, paid vacation and study time. Salary up to \$58,000 based on experience.

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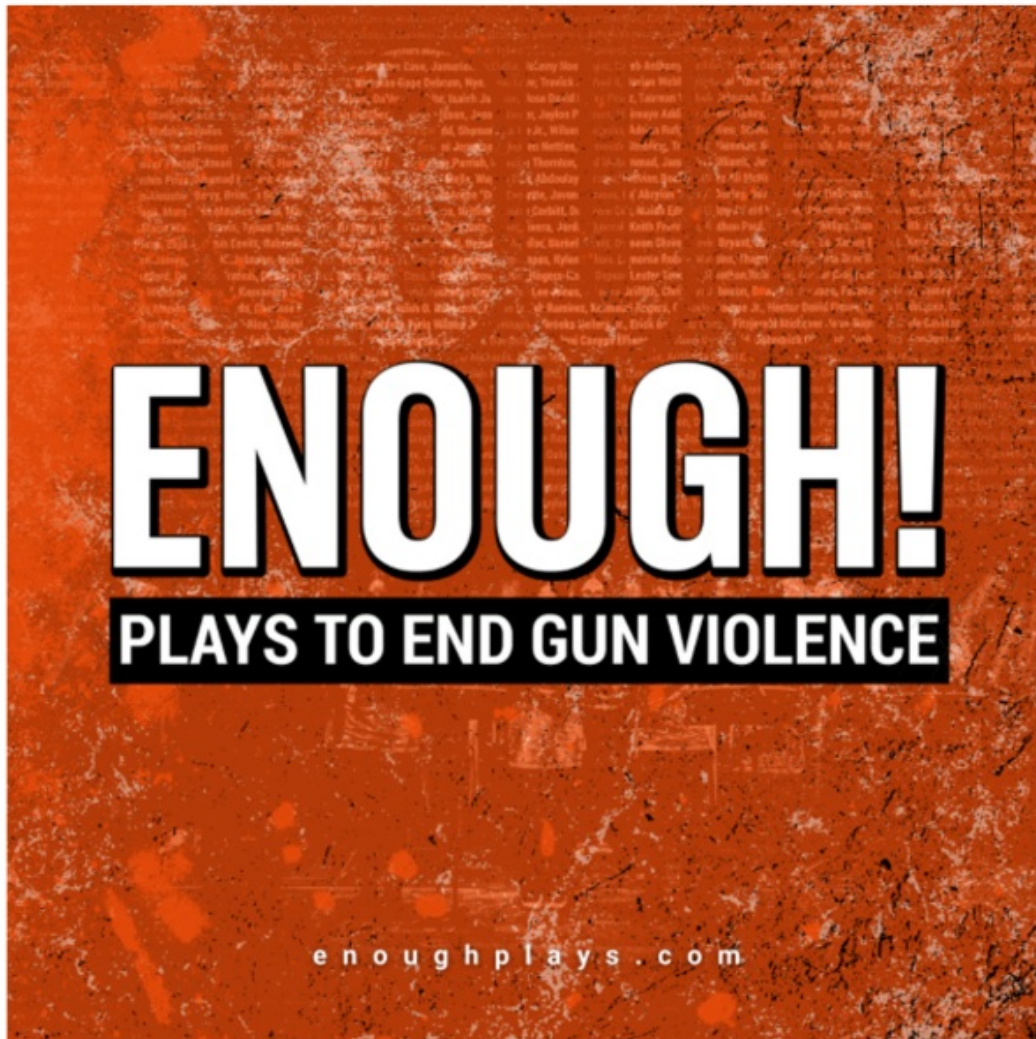
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Apply with a cover letter and resume to Rev. Lise.

[Click here to read the full job description.](#)



Join us and bring a friend

Monday, November 6, 2023

6:30-9 pm

This is a nationwide event!!

Community reading of six 10 minute scripts

Audience members will be invited to read parts

**Congregation Beth Sholom
7525 E Northern Lights Blvd**



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Kelly's remote office hours Mon-Fri 9 am -1 pm

Director of Lifespan Learning & Exploration,

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Visit our website

AUUF Podcast

Donate



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UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST
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*diverse beliefs,
common purpose.*

Today At Your Fellowship

Thursday, October 26, 2023

This Weekend @ AUUF Find Zoom [links here.](#)

Saturday 10/28/23

8:30 am AA Slap Happy Group
12:00 pm Online Auction Starts

1-3:00 pm Private Rental
6-9:00 pm Private Rental

Sunday 10/29/23

9:00 am The Forum IN PERSON & on ZOOM

11:00 am Sunday Worship IN-PERSON and on Zoom

12:30 pm Finding your way to Fellowship Newcomers & Explorers class

12:30 pm 5th Sunday Potluck- All are welcome

4:00 pm Anchorage Friends Meeting

Monday 10/30/23

1:30 pm Private Rental
6:30 pm Fireweed Sangha of Mindful Living- Private Rental Visitors welcome

Tuesday 10/31/23

6:00 pm Community Connections- Private rental

Wednesday 11/1/23

Online Auction some items will close at 8:00 pm
11-1:30 pm Private Rental
5:00 pm Connections Team/ Pastoral Care
7:00 pm Building & Grounds Meeting

Half Portion Recipient for October:
[The Anchorage Coalition to End Homelessness](#)

Hi,
Kelly Spring here, through an error on my part this did not get sent on Thursday.
My apologies for the inconvenience.

Kelly Spring,
AUUF Communications Specialist



The Forum IN PERSON & on Zoom 9 am Sunday, October 29, 2023
Anchorage's Housing Crisis—What You Need to Know
Meg Zaletel, Anchorage Assembly Member and
Executive Director, Anchorage Coalition to End Homelessness

The Forum IN PERSON at AUUF & on Zoom 9 am Sunday, October 29, 2023

[Click here to join on Zoom.](#)
[Click here for the Speaker's bio.](#)

Sunday, October 29, 2023 IN PERSON & on Zoom

Meg Zaletel, Anchorage Assembly Member and
Executive Director, Anchorage Coalition to End Homelessness
"Anchorage's Housing Crisis—What You Need to Know"

Fresh out of law school, Meg took a job in Anchorage, sight unseen, representing Alaskans experiencing disabilities. This job brought her to Alaska, let her travel throughout the state, and gave her valuable experience working on systemic issues.

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In Memoriam: All Soul's Day



Sunday Worship IN PERSON & on Zoom 11 am Sunday, October 29, 2023

In Memoriam: All Soul's Day

Rev. Lise, Barb Clark, and Maribeth Snell

Sunday Worship IN PERSON at AUUF & on Zoom 11 am Sunday, October 29, 2023

In Memoriam: All Soul's Day

Rev. Lise, Barb Clark, and Maribeth Snell

It's AUUF's annual time of remembrance as we name those cherished congregants who have left us and share mementos of other friends and family members on our altar. Remember to bring a photo or cherished object of your person(s) if you'd like to share in this way.

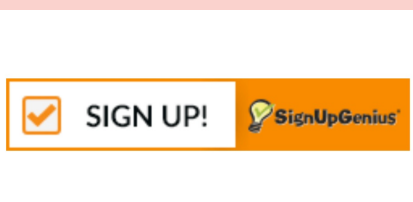
[Click here to join on Zoom.](#)

[Click here for the Speaker's bio.](#)

Sunday Hospitality / Connections

Greeters and Social Hour Help Needed this Sunday!

No one has signed up yet for greeters (there should be 2) for the 11 am service. Help is also needed for the Social Hour. Please consider volunteering so that our visitors feel welcome and want to come again. Just click on the link below and follow the directions. Future Sundays have slots to be filled as well. Thank you!



5th Sunday Potluck October 29

The AUUF Connections Team invites everyone to attend a potluck at AUUF at 12:30 p.m. after the 11 a.m. service.

Grilled food will be provided by volunteers. Please bring a salad, side dish or dessert to share. In addition, please bring your family's own non-paper PLATES, CUPS, UTENSILS etc. to minimize cleanup AND reduce the use of disposable products. The idea is that each family or individual takes their used items home to clean. Hope to see you there!

Vote for the 2024 Half Portion

Dennis Arashiro

The word “fellowship” is derived from the Greek word “koinonia,” which can be defined as “holding something in common.” While this clearly refers to what we Fellowship members have in common with one another, we can take it a step further in what we have in common with those beyond our walls. This is why only half of our Sunday collections go to supporting ourselves; the other half goes to causes and organizations supporting the larger community. The Half Portion for Social Action goes to 12 recipients each year, with each assigned to a specific month. Two months are reserved for an Indigenous cause and PILOT (Payment in Lieu of Taxes). Who will be the other ten 2024 recipients? The decision is yours.

The nomination process took place from September 13 to October 1, and the final list of nominees was vetted and set in the past two weeks. Now begins the voting period for selecting the 2024 recipients of the Half Portion for Social Action. You will have from now until November 1, 2023, to choose 10 from the list of nominees, with the 10 highest vote-getters to be placed on the monthly schedule for next year. Two months are already reserved for PILOT (Payment in Lieu of Taxes) and a cause or organization supportive of Indigenous communities. All the fifth Sundays in the months that have them are reserved for the Minister’s Caring Fund or a cause designated by Rev. Lise. The actual 2024 schedule of Half Portion recipients will be announced no later than November 17. Click the link below to make your Half Portion selections.

[Click here to make your Half-portion selections.](#)

[Click here to read descriptions about the 2023 Half-portion Nominees.](#)

On-line Auction Launches Saturday: Please Share the Link With Friends & Family

Get ready, AUUF, because our annual online auction launches this Saturday and runs through the following Saturday, Nov. 4. Trust us when we say we have some FABulous offerings, thanks to those of you who donated and to several generous businesses. All of you should get an email Saturday with the full catalog and easy directions on how to participate. How can you help?

1. Check the site often throughout the week and play along by bidding up the price on a handful of items. Few things are more fun than a good-hearted bidding war! Pick a couple that you’re particularly keen on.
2. Buy a raffle ticket (or two or three or more), or simply make a donation.
3. Commit to sharing the public link below with at least three non AUUF friends or family members. Broadening our audience is an easy way to spread the fun, draw in new participants and meet or exceed our fundraising goal.

<https://anchorageunitarianuniver.schoolauction.net/auction2023>

Items are on display downstairs in Rm 2 whenever someone’s in the building. Questions? Feel free to contact Peggy, Cathy, Robin or Carma or email auction@anchorageuuf.com

Christmas Unplugged Workshop: how to make

the most of the holidays on your own terms

Do you feel overwhelmed thinking about Christmas? Do you experience time and financial pressures related to the holiday season? Do you feel worn out by the time Christmas rolls around? Are you interested in discussing and learning strategies to empower yourself and your family to have your best Christmas ever in 2023? If the answer to any of these questions is yes, then you won't want to miss the Christmas Unplugged Workshop.

Join like-minded folks and co-instructors Teresa Zimmer and TK Kleiner for a fun, interactive, three-hour workshop that will put more JOY back in your Christmas season.

- Consider letting go of traditions that bring little value and are costly in time or money or in conflict with green values. Learn new and unique traditions that might serve you and your family better.
- Discuss gifting protocols and expectations. How much is too much? Must I give a gift to every person who gives me a gift? Alternative gift ideas.
- What do children really need at Christmas? What distracts from meaningful celebrations?
- Identify demographics that present challenges at Christmas: blended families, joint custody families, families with additional celebrations in grandparent homes, families traveling long distances to celebrate with loved ones.

Sunday Nov. 5th , 12:45-3:45 PM at AUUF, Classroom #5

Childcare provided. Bring your lunch.

Instructors: Teresa Zimmer, TK Kleiner

No Charge for AUUF Members and friends

CLASS SIZE IS LIMITED. MUST REGISTER BY OCTOBER 26th . Email Teresa at tzimmer@gci.net or TK at tkkleiner@gmail.com

Religious and Ethical Exploration Opportunities for all Ages

Hey folks!

I hope you all are enjoying these beautiful fall days. And as always, the changing light is captivating this time of year.

I wanted to give a big shout-out to the CYRE Team (Children and Youth Religious Exploration) who have been working so hard on Fall Frolic and Sunday morning classes in the absence of having a DRE. Yay, CYRE Team!!!! (AKA Annie Belts, Katie Melrose, Mary Gregory, Dianna Polese, Kalen Saxton, Elayne Hunter, Andee Cordano and recently retired from CYRE Alison Hanson.) Fall Frolic was a lot of fun and we're thinking about ways to provide rides to King's Lake for a Saturday-only option for next year. On Sunday mornings, we still need a few more teachers for the K-5 and middle school classes. Please talk to me or Annie if you can spend a few Sundays a month learning and playing with our children. There are other ways to help our children's program as well, if teaching isn't for you.

If you're wondering how the Sunday morning children's classes are interfacing with 11 am worship, we're doing things a little differently this year.

- First Sunday of the month, children and youth are downstairs in classes.
- Second Sunday, Rev. Lise (me) spends the first 15 minutes downstairs with all children and youth in a Chalice Circle (children's worship) before they go to classes.

- Third Sunday, children and youth are downstairs in classes.
- Fourth Sunday, the children are upstairs for the first part of worship and a Time for All Ages before going downstairs to classes. The high school youth stay upstairs in worship, or help in other RE classes.
- Fifth Sunday, same as first and third Sundays.

For adult-only interactions, we have several options.

- Susan Orlansky is organizing Small Group Communities (Small Group Ministry/Chalice Circles). We hope to be starting those soon.
- Freethinkers (those who read a non-fiction book, discuss, and share snacks) continues to meet at AUUF Fridays at noon.
- The Hungry Book Club continues to meet at AUUF the second Tuesday of the month at 2 pm. (They also share snacks and alternate between fiction and non-fiction.)
- The Anti-Racism Team is hosting a book discussion on Defund Fear Weds., Oct. 25, Nov. 8 and Nov. 29 from 6:30-8 pm at AUUF.

We have a wonderful community here that cares about each other and our world. I hope to see you on Sundays and throughout the week!
Blessings, Rev. Lise

Director of Religious Exploration Position

This position is open to AUUF friends and members, too.

Title: Director of Religious Exploration

Fair Labor Standards Act Status: Salaried Exempt Position

Hours Required: Full time. Start date as soon as possible.

Salary and Benefits: Based on Midsize I, Geoindex 5 congregation per UUA guidelines.

Benefits

include pension, professional expenses, paid vacation and study time. Salary up to \$58,000 based on experience.

[Click here to read the full job description.](#)

Music Director Position

This position is open to AUUF members and friends, too

We are hiring a part-time music director to play the piano for our 11 am services, direct our choir during the school year, and be part of the worship team to select music to add to the theme of the service. If you know someone who you think would be a good fit with us, please refer them to our website or forward the linked job description. The position is open until filled.

Apply with a cover letter and resume to Rev. Lise.

[Click here to read the full job description.](#)



Introduction to Health Ministry

Saturday, Nov. 4 and Sunday, Nov. 5, 2023

Providence Alaska Medical Center | Anchorage

What is Health Ministry?

Health Ministers interact with their faith communities through presence and prayer, are role models for healthy stewardship of the body, emphasizing self-care of the whole person. They are responsive to the needs and interests of the faith community regarding healthier lifestyles, early illness detection, and health resources, and promote community resources to meet those needs. Health Ministers may also coordinate volunteers to help organize members of the faith community in sharing their gifts of serving to support wellness (i.e. bringing meals, transportation, or sharing their expertise in teaching a class).

Additional Information

This 16-hour course will provide information on beginning a health ministry, roles and responsibilities, supporting others through chronic disease management, self-care/boundaries, home and hospital visits, caring for caregivers, prayer, confidentiality, accessing reliable information and resources, and more.

Contact

Alaska Faith Community Nurse Resource Center at Providence:
afcnrc@providence.org

Bev Bateman

907-212-5053, beverly.bateman@providence.org

Amanda Kratochvil

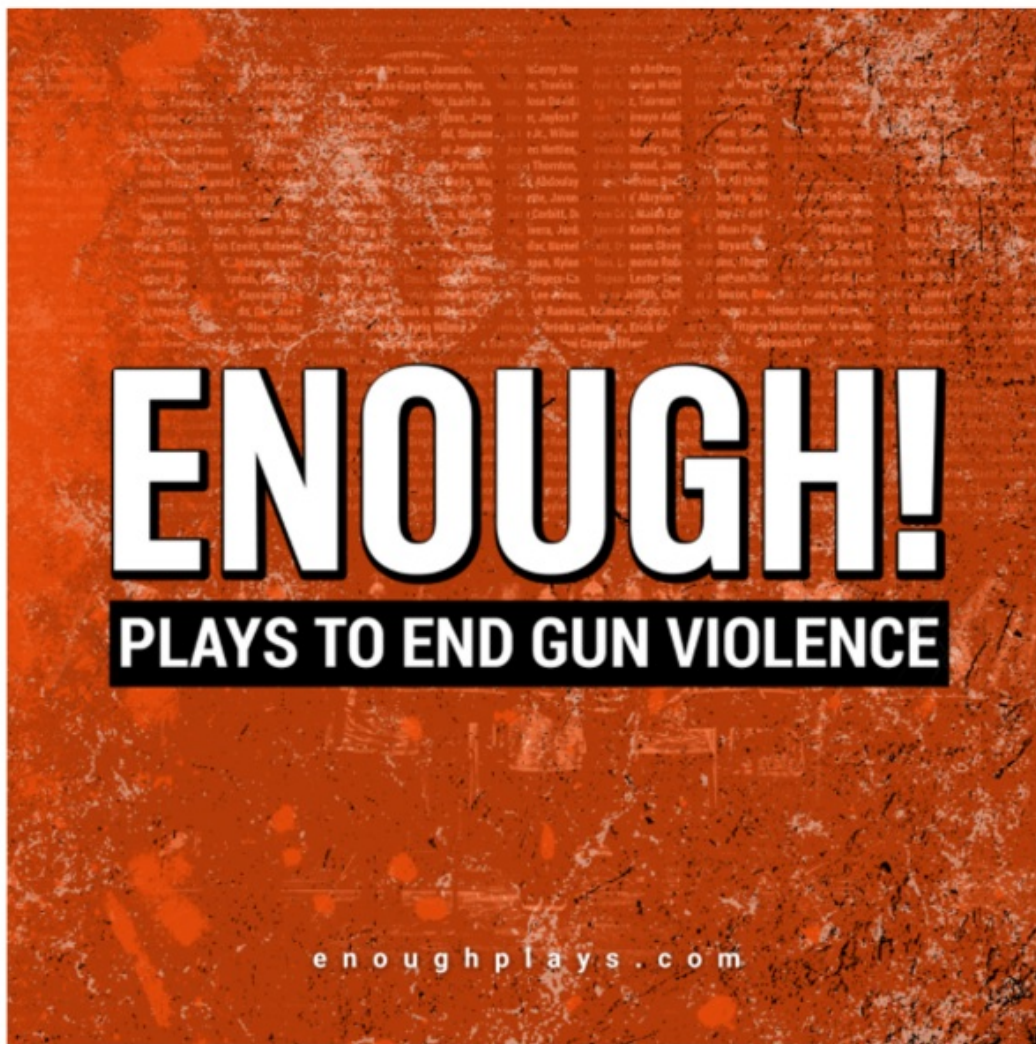
907-212-2595, amanda.kratochvil@providence.org

► Class is free to all Providence Alaska caregivers; \$50 for non-employees.

► Register by October 27, 2023, using the QR code below or click [here](#).



3200 Providence Drive
Anchorage, AK 99508
907-212-5053
afcnrc@providence.org



Join us and bring a friend

Monday, November 6, 2023

6:30-9 pm

This is a nationwide event!!

Community reading of six 10 minute scripts

Audience members will be invited to read parts

**Congregation Beth Sholom
7525 E Northern Lights Blvd**



**ANCHORAGE COALITION TO
END HOMELESSNESS**

HALF PORTION FOR SOCIAL ACTION:

The Anchorage Coalition to End Homelessness

The Anchorage Coalition to End Homelessness is the lead agency for the Continuum of Care for the Homelessness Prevention and Response System. Our mission is to provide dynamic leadership to make homelessness rare, brief, and one-time. The coalition works with the Department of Housing and Urban Development to identify and target housing and services to move people from homelessness to stably housed. The role of a Continuum of Care is to ensure that anyone who becomes homeless has the appropriate services available to them to move into housing, and to coordinate with the homeless service providers to understand where the gaps in services are and how programs are performing. The goal of all programs is to move people into housing.

You can think of a Continuum of Care as the air traffic controller at an airport. The air traffic controller doesn't operate flights, or manage baggage services, or screen people for safety. The air traffic controller works with the airlines to ensure that every passenger gets where they need to go in a timely manner and that incoming and outgoing flights are identified and tracked. Similarly, a Continuum of Care is responsible for the overall design of the Homeless Prevention and Response System, for knowing who is experiencing homelessness in a community and what the barriers to get into housing are, working with all service providers to apply for funding from HUD, and to help make a plan to reduce homelessness.

The coalition was founded in 2004, and has grown in the past two decades to include outreach to our unsheltered and camping neighbors and provide advocacy at the local, state and national levels. The coalition appreciates when community groups engage with our work and look forward to providing education about homelessness and housing first to your congregation.

**Go to anchorageuuf.org
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 Tu 11-3; W and F 10-2, and by appointment

Tammie Stoops, Congregational Administrator, 907-248-3737 x1
Admin@anchorageUUF.org AUUF
Usually Monday - Thursday 10-2, plus additional hours. Please call before coming.

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

Director of Lifespan Learning & Exploration,
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 Our Fellowship
Thursday, November 7, 2024

This Weekend @ AUUF

Thursday 11/7/24

5:30 pm Anti-Racism Team Meeting
5:30 pm CYRE Team Meeting
6:30 pm Choir Practice with Esme

Friday 11/8/24

8:15-11:15 am Music Together Mountain
Song
12:00-2:00 pm Freethinkers, In-Person

Saturday 11/9/24

8:30-10:30 am AA Slap Happy Group
10:30-12:45 am Music Together Mountain
Song
1:30-3:30 pm Private Rental
5:30 pm Annual Dinner starts

Sunday 11/10/24

9:00 am The Forum In- Person & on
ZOOM
11:00 am Sunday Worship Service In-
Person & on ZOOM

12:30-2:00 pm The Alliance at AUUF
1:30-2:30 pm Worship Associate Meeting
4:00 pm Anchorage Friends Meeting

Monday 11/11/24

Veteran's Day - Office closed
3:30-6:00 pm Private Rental
6:30 pm Fireweed Sangha of Mindful
Living - Private Rental Visitors Welcome

Tuesday 11/12/24

11:00 am Staff Meeting
6:00-7:00 pm Community Connections

Wednesday 11/13/24

6:00-8:00 pm Safer Congregation Team
on Zoom

Thursday 11/14/24

2:00-3:30 pm UUHR Meeting
6:30 pm Choir Practice with Esme



The Forum 9:00 AM Sunday November 10, 2024

IN PERSON & on Zoom

The Nov. 5 Election—What Just Happened?

John-Henry Heckendorn and Burke Croft, Ship Creek Group

The Forum

9:00 am Sunday, November 10, 2024

Live at AUUF & on Zoom

[Click here to join on Zoom.](#)

[Click here for Speaker's bio.](#)



Sunday Worship Service IN PERSON & on Zoom

11:00 AM Sunday November 10, 2024

It's Good To Be Together.

Rev. Lise Adams Sherry, Worship Associate Cassie Thomas

Sunday Worship

Live at AUUF & on Zoom

11:00 am Sunday, November 10, 2024

[Click here to join on Zoom.](#)

Sad News

Dear Ones,

On Sunday we announced the death of Dawn Danner, wife of Lars, and mom to Esme, our Music Director. She died late on the evening of October 27.

If you didn't yet know her, Dawn was tall, with short red hair and a ready smile. She had been coming to the Fellowship this fall and had just attended our Finding Your Way to Fellowship class with her husband. She was warm, funny, and ready to be engaged with us.

There will be a Memorial here at the Fellowship, on Saturday, Dec. 21, at 1 pm.

Please join me in sending love and condolences to the Danner family.

Blessings, Rev. Lise



Time's Running Out to Bid! Bid! Bid!

You have until *this Saturday* evening during the annual dinner to get your final bids in for a whole slew of fabulous items in this year's on-line auction. Using the personal link that was emailed to you last Saturday, you'll find lots of wonderful framed art (Time to up-date your look?), gorgeous pottery, Taylor Swift swag, slots for community-building activities, holiday décor and more. You also have until Saturday to buy raffle tickets for our three grand prizes, including another incredible Irene O'Brien quilt, a stunning piece of Alaska Native art and a Civil Rights travel package and scholarship. Please email the auction committee if you have any questions or need directions on how to share the link with friends and family. auktion@anchorageuuf.com You'll be able to pick up your winning items at Saturday's annual dinner and Sunday before and after the 11 a.m. service. And from your small but mighty auction team, a huge THANK YOU for all your generous donations and feverish bidding!

ANNUAL DINNER AND AWARDS BANQUET, SATURDAY NIGHT, LIVE FROM ANCHORAGE AUUF

Don't forget that our annual dinner is this Saturday night, November 9th, at the Fellowship. We sure hope to see you there! Doors open at 5:30 pm. A summary of the program can be found below.

And please check out all the awesome items in our "Stronger Together Auction" catalog – like the ping pond table with free delivery in Anchorage! Check your email for the distributed auction links.

ANNUAL DINNER PROGRAM

3:30 – 5:30 pm: Set-up and Food Preparation

5:30 – 6:15 pm: Happy Hour / Meet and Greet

- Raffle tickets sales including attendee only items
- Opportunity to purchase auction “Experiences” and other remaining items
- Wine and Beer bar open

6:15 pm: Closing of all Raffle Ticket Sales

6:15 pm: Blessing (Rev. Lise)

6:15 - 7:15 pm: Potluck Dinner

7:15 – 7:30 pm: General Auction Results and Raffle Drawings

7:30 – 8:00 pm: AUUF Annual Awards

8:00 pm: Closing Words (Rev. Lise)

About the election . . .

Yes, the presidential election did not turn out as many of us had hoped. Last I checked we're still waiting on the results of our local races. Yesterday was hard and we'll continue to have some hard days. That's how grief and anger and emotions work. We feel them all, and not always when we want to. But our Fellowship will be here and we'll keep working towards making our Beloved Community, one step at a time.

In fact, we shared Beloved Community last night to find solace, express our anger, our grief. There were a little over 20 of us and it was good to be together. Here's what I wrote about our time last night on Facebook:

"I know not everyone had the energy, heart or time to come tonight, but you were well represented. Folks shared their hearts, we lit candles, did a few readings, sang a few songs, and then we had cake! (Comfort food). There were other food options, too. Mostly, we just enjoyed being together--it was helpful. When we blew out our chalice we sent it out in honor of our collective strength. You are all loved. ☐"

We are all loved--our Universalist theology tells us this and I hope you can feel it. We are all loved, no matter how we voted.

I'll see you on Sunday!

Blessings, Rev. Lise

DRE Fall Conference & Out of Office

Jenn Bluntach will be out of her office and attending a virtual DRE Fall Conference November 6-8. She will periodically be checking her email. You can reach out at any time to Jenn at DRE@anchorageuuf.org and she will reply as she is able.

From November 12-14 Jenn's children and grandson will be visiting from Minnesota. She will be back in the office on Fri, Nov 15 and her family will be joining us on Sunday, Nov 17 at the Fellowship.

Again, you can always contact Jenn by email.

Thank you!

HALF PORTION FOR SOCIAL ACTION 2025 RECIPIENTS

Dennis Arashiro and Sara Hannon

With the completion of the voting for the 2025 Half Portion for Social Action, we now have a complete list of recipients for the coming year. See the graph below for the voting results. The top ten organizations in the voting will be assigned to the monthly schedule. One other month is reserved for Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILOT); the remaining month will be reserved for the Alaska Native Birthworkers. The 2025 monthly Half Portion schedule will be announced before the end of this month to allow for preparations for the January 2025 Half Portion.

Thanks go to Kelly Spring, our communications specialist, for preparing the online voting process and all the members who made their voices heard in nominating and voting for the organizations for us to support. We can now look forward to continuing our giving to those in the larger community who are making a positive difference in the world.



A Message from your Endowment Fund Committee

A question we get asked as Endowment Fund Committee members is how large of a total value does the national UUA office recommend our Endowment Fund be before disbursement? AUUF's goal for an initial possible disbursement was raised by a vote of the congregation in 2022 from \$250K to \$500K, as adjusted for inflation. The UUA recommendation is three times our annual budget. For AUUF this would mean a little over \$1 million. By setting the disbursement goal to this lower value, AUUF believes that some benefit will occur sooner, while still creating a likely scenario of continued growth until the \$1 million mark is achieved.

Help Us Celebrate!

The Endowment Fund Committee is very happy to announce that the Fund has now passed the half-way mark for its initial disbursement goal to the Fellowship! The Fund recently received a generous "living giving" donation from James Dryden and Stephanie Koonz and a bequest donation from the estate of Sylvia Short that topped out the current balance at just over \$263,000. This is over the 50% threshold for our \$500,000 goal (adjusted for inflation). Please join us in celebrating this milestone with cake and beverages on Sunday November 17 before and after the 11AM service.



Grades 4-6 OWL instructors needed

If you are a trained OWL instructor please consider helping in the teaching rotation for grades 4-6 this winter. Right now, there are two committed instructors but ideally we'd like two more teachers in the rotation. The plan is to offer the OWL class starting in January through the beginning of April in Room 7 on the same Sunday afternoons that the Coming of Age group meets in Room 8. Twice in January, February, March and once in April. Contact Jenn at dre@anchorageuuf.org if you are willing to teach a lesson or two to give our lead teachers a break on occasion this winter. We thank you for your consideration in helping us continue to offer OWL in the community.

New Religious Exploration Communication

There is a new communication option for Religious Exploration. Jenn has created a specific RE monthly quick note that includes more detailed information of what is planned in RE for the upcoming month. Right now, registered RE families, teaching volunteers and the RE team receive this special quick note via email. If you would like to be added to the email list to also receive this more detailed communication, reach out to Jenn at dre@anchorageuuf.org and she will happily add your email to the group.

 **Mark your calendars now for this fun and festive event in December! Extend invitations to your friends and family to join us for a cup of Hot Cocoa as we travel on the Polar Express!   All aboard!!!  **



The Polar Express Movie

JOIN US! ALL ARE WELCOME!

HOT COCOA & CANDY CANES WILL BE SERVED
WEAR YOUR HOLIDAY PAJAMAS OR FESTIVE CLOTHING. BRING A BLANKET AND GET COZY AS WE TRAVEL ON THE POLAR EXPRESS!

WHEN: SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15
12:30 PM IN THE SANCTUARY

ANCHORAGE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP
2824 E. 18TH AVENUE
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99508

CONTACT JENN AT DRE@ANCHORAGEUUF.ORG FOR MORE INFO
www.anchorageuuf.org

UU Community Resilience Hub

Community resilience is a collective effort. We know many of you are already doing your part to build strong, connected, and resilient communities. This hub is designed to offer ongoing support, including the latest updates, resources, and events, to help guide you through the challenges we face. Together, we can harness our collective power to meet this moment, because democracy isn't just something we do—it's who we are, and who we strive to be.

In moments of instability and fear, we must respond with clarity and courage. It is our responsibility to leverage our resources, relationships, and collective power to defend democracy, ensure safety, and build a future where everyone can thrive. Through this hub, we offer guidance and resources on how to take action now, support each other, and build a resilient community that stands firm in the face of uncertainty.

[Click here to read more.](#)

Invitation to the Ribbon Cutting Ceremony of The Equity Center

Saturday, November 9th, from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm

You are warmly invited to celebrate the grand opening and ribbon-cutting ceremony of the Equity Center, a significant community investment project, on Saturday, November 9th, 2024, at 1 PM, located at 605 Barrow Street. The Equity Center is a permanent sanctuary where the Alaska Black Caucus and other BIPOC individuals, organizations and businesses can breathe freely, strategize for meaningful change, and engage with fellow community members and leaders. It serves as a platform for building trust, forging relationships, and translating advocacy into tangible action that uplifts and empowers our communities.

NOVEMBER HALF PORTION FOR SOCIAL ACTION: Alaska Literacy Program

Alaska Literacy Program is a volunteer-based community agency with the mission of *changing lives through literacy*. For 50 years, we have taught adults to read, write and speak English. The learners come from all over the world, including the United States. They come to class to learn the skills needed to get and keep a job in Alaska, help their children in school, become citizens and understand their new home country.

Since 1974, ALP has been providing literacy services to Anchorage residents and individuals throughout the state. ALP recruits, trains, certifies, and supports volunteer teachers who work in a classroom setting teaching reading, writing and speaking English to adults. ALP provides these core [English language classes](#) year-round for adults and families with young children, concentrating on those most in need. In recent years we've also gained the opportunity to serve other Anchorage area adult learners such as [GED](#) students.

Over time, ALP has grown to define literacy as more than reading and writing: it includes having the skills needed to navigate our complex and rapidly changing world. It is the philosophy of Alaska Literacy Program that adults have the right to be free from the burden of illiteracy - free to function as independent, productive citizens. For ALP families, this looks like digital literacy, health literacy, financial literacy, and [family literacy](#). Through this comprehensive framework, ALP is increasing the self-sufficiency of our ELL adults, changing lives and enriching our community.

Today, ALP provides [GED test prep services](#), supporting adults to overcome this long-standing barrier to employment and career advancement. ALP's [Peer Leader Navigator](#) initiative provides information on important health and life topics to people who face barriers in finding that information themselves.

ALP is an accredited member of [ProLiteracy](#), the largest volunteer literacy organization in the world.

Go to anchorageuuf.org
Click on the Half-Portion note or Donate/ Pay
at the bottom of the home page.

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

Rev. Lise Adams Sherry, (she/ her), Minister,

RevLise@anchorageuuf.org, 907-248-3737 x2,

Office hours are usually Tu 11-3; Th and F 11-3, and by appointment

Rebecca Bernard, (she/ her), Affiliated Community Minister

RBernard.AK@gmail.com

Richard Stoneking, (he/him), Congregational Administrator

Admin@AnchorageUUF.org, 907.248.3737 x.1

Office Hours Usually Mon-Thu 11am - 3 pm, Please call first.

Jennifer Bluntach (she/her), Director of Religious Exploration

DRE@anchorageuuf.org

Office hours usually are:

Sunday 9am-11am, Tuesday 11am-3pm, Thursday, 11am-3pm, and by appointment

Kelly Spring, (she/ her), Communications Specialist,

Communications@anchorageuuf.org

Kelly's remote office hours Mon-Fri 9 am -1 pm

Esme Danner (she/her) Music Director
907-248-3737 x4, Music@anchorageuuf.org

Dan Norton: AV Coordinator
907-248-3737 x5, AVCoordinator@anchorageuuf.org

Contact the Connections Team for more information on how to get involved.
Connections@anchorageuuf.org

Connect with us



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AUUF Podcast

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ANCHORAGE
UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST
FELLOWSHIP
*diverse beliefs,
common purpose.*

Today At Our Fellowship
Thursday, November 14, 2024

This Weekend @ AUUF

Thursday 11/14/24

6:30 pm Choir Practice with Esme in the Sanctuary

Friday 11/15/24

8:15-11:15 am Music Together Mountain Song
12:00-2:00 pm Freethinkers, In-Person

Saturday 11/16/24

8:30-10:30 am AA Slap Happy Group
10:30-12:45 am Music Together Mountain Song
1:30 pm Private Rental Sanctuary

Sunday 11/17/24

9:00 am The Forum In- Person & on ZOOM

10:15 am-12:45 pm Endowment Fund Halfway Celebration

11:00 am Sunday Worship Service In-Person & on ZOOM

12:30-2:00 pm Anti-Racism Book Read/Discussion Library with Dennis Arashiro

4:00 pm Anchorage Friends Meeting

Monday 11/18/24

3:30-6:00 pm Private Rental Room 5
6:30 pm Fireweed Sangha of Mindful Living - Private Rental Visitors Welcome

Tuesday 11/19/24

5:30 pm Finance Committee Meeting
6:00-7:00 pm Community Connections
6:00-7:00 pm Program Council

Wednesday 11/20/24

5:45 – 7:45pm Coming of Age Group
Adventure: Candlelight concert; A Tribute to Taylor Swift
49th State Brewing - Anchorage
6:00– 8:00 pm Trans day of Remembrance at AUUF Sanctuary
Sanctuary & Social room

Thursday 11/21/24

6:30 pm Board of Directors Meeting
6:30 pm Choir Practice with Esme in the Sanctuary



At Food Bank of Alaska, we believe that no one deserves to be hungry.



The Forum 9:00 AM Sunday November 17, 2024

IN PERSON & on Zoom

An Update on the Rising Food Insecurity Rate in Alaska—and How to Support FBA

Daniel Bentle, Food Bank of Alaska

The Forum

9:00 am Sunday, November 17, 2024

IN- Person at AUUF & on Zoom

[Click here to join on Zoom.](#)

[Click here for Speaker's bio.](#)



Sunday Worship Service 11:00 AM Sunday November 17, 2024

IN PERSON & on Zoom

Welcoming LGBTQ+ Folks

Rev. Lise Sherry & Rebecca Bernard

Sunday Worship In- Person at AUUF & on Zoom

11:00 am Sunday, November 17, 2024

[Click here to join on Zoom.](#)

Help Us Celebrate!

Sunday November 17 before and after the 11AM service.

The Endowment Fund Committee is very happy to announce that the Fund has now

passed the half-way mark for its initial disbursement goal to the Fellowship! The Fund recently received a generous “living giving” donation from James Dryden and Stephanie Koonz and a bequest donation from the estate of Sylvia Short that topped out the current balance at just over \$263,000. This is over the 50% threshold for our \$500,000 goal (adjusted for inflation). Please join us in celebrating this milestone with cake and beverages on Sunday November 17 before and after the 11AM service.

Transgender Day of Remembrance

November 20, 2024, 6-8pm

AUUF is hosting a service for this important event with members of Anchorage's Trans Community. All Trans folks and their allies are welcome. We will gather in support and witness.

PLEASE NOTE: Do not post this information on any public media sites or community bulletin boards. Because of safety concerns, we have been asked to only share this information to known people. Thank you!

For further information, please contact Rev. Lise or Becca Bernard.

Gratitude Soup Sunday

November 24, after the 11 am service

Seeking soup, breads and dessert donations. As well as help with set up, clean up would be much appreciated.

Elayne Text or call 907-223-6507 to volunteer.



AUUF Membership: Something Important to Consider

On Sunday November 24th, the Connections Team will be introducing our newest members at the 11:00 am service, as we covenant together as a Fellowship. Maybe you've thought about joining but aren't sure about it.

Why become a member of AUUF? Because it represents your commitment to making your best effort of giving time, talent and treasure to our beloved community. Because your participation and care help us become stronger during this time of uncertainty. Because we are a self-supporting organization, using democratic processes that offer voting privileges to its members. Because we need your voice to decide on budget, bylaws and other important issues. Because we need dedicated members to fill leadership positions to create our just, safe and caring community. Makes sense, right?

How do you become a member? It's easier than you might think. If you feel you are ready

to join, just talk to Rev. Lise to set up an appointment. She'll ask you a few questions, have you fill out some paperwork, and then have you sign the membership book. If you do this before the 24th then you can be among those we plan to recognize that day.

Letter of Introduction from Your New Affiliated Community Minister

Dear AUUF members and friends,

In the nearly 10 years that I've been involved with AUUF, I've followed a winding path from one role to another: first, an explorer; then a member; a few years later a Ministerial Intern; and now, an Affiliated Community Minister. The Board approved this covenantal relationship late in the summer and will revisit our agreement annually. If you're wondering what it means, or if you and I haven't yet met, this letter is for you.

The Unitarian Universalist world recognizes Community Ministry as any form of ministry that occurs beyond the four walls of a UU congregation, out in the wider community. UU community ministers serve as chaplains in all sorts of institutions, run non-profit organizations, educate, advocate, work as spiritual directors, and more. My particular community ministry is evolving; at present, I am a part-time chaplain at Providence Alaska Medical Center and I devote a lot of my time to advocating in support of trans youth and the trans community.

But even though Community Ministry is focused outside of a congregation, it is valuable for UU community ministers to be anchored in a congregation or other UU community – both to maintain firm roots in our UU values and practices, and for the visibility this brings to the work. Community ministers affiliated with a congregation often provide occasional services like leading worship, teaching classes, or providing pastoral care.

[Please click here to read Rebecca's entire message.](#)

A Message from Your Building and Grounds Committee

Are you handy with tools? Do you like swinging a hammer, drilling holes, and banging down nails every once in a while? If so, the AUUF Building and Grounds Committee might be the right place for you! We are looking for congregational members who are mechanically inclined to join our committee. We have a variety of projects, both large and small, that need to get done periodically throughout the year. Most of this work is done on a volunteer basis by our committee members. We meet once a month on the first Wednesday of the month at 7pm via Zoom for about an hour to discuss the status of Fellowship projects. Many hands make light work, so please join us so that the doors don't sag, the windows don't leak, and any new wall dings get fill in.

Please call or text committee member David O'Brien at 907-720-0648 for more information.

2025 HALF PORTION FOR SOCIAL ACTION MONTHLY SCHEDULE

From the Social Action Council

Join Our Anti-Racism Team Book Read!

WE HAVE NOT STOPPED TREMBLING YET: LETTERS TO MY FILIPINO-ATHABASCAN FAMILY

by E.J.R. DAVID

Associate Professor of Psychology at the University of Alaska Anchorage, Dr. David, in a series of letters to his mixed-race Filipino-Athabascan family, explores the deep effects of colonialism and racial oppression that his children are confronted with. Weaving together deeply personal memories, family experiences and empirical data, he engages us in a journey of learning and healing.

Please join the Anti-Racism Team after the Worship Service in person in the Fellowship Library or online through the link provided on the AUUF website to discuss the many issues raised in the readings on:

SUNDAYS, 12:30 - 2 PM,
NOVEMBER 17: Our Roots - Postscript, pp. 113-164

If you have any questions, please contact Dennis Arashiro at the Social Justice Table in the Social Room at the Fellowship on Sundays or at elvischannel@yahoo.com.



Grades 4-6 OWL instructors needed

If you are a trained OWL instructor please consider helping in the teaching rotation for grades 4-6 this winter. Right now, there are two committed instructors but ideally we'd like two more teachers in the rotation. The plan is to offer the OWL class starting in January through the beginning of April in Room 7 on the same Sunday afternoons that the Coming of Age group meets in Room 8. Twice in January, February, March and once in April. Contact Jenn at dre@anchorageuuf.org if you are willing to teach a lesson or two to give our lead teachers a break on occasion this winter. We thank you for your consideration in helping us continue to offer OWL in the community.

New Religious Exploration Communication

There is a new communication option for Religious Exploration. Jenn has created a specific RE monthly quick note that includes more detailed information of what is planned in RE for the upcoming month. Right now, registered RE families, teaching volunteers and the RE team receive this special quick note via email. If you would like to be added to the email list to also receive this more detailed communication, reach out to Jenn at dre@anchorageuuf.org and she will happily add your email to the group.

 **Mark your calendars now for this fun and festive event in December! Extend invitations to your friends and family to join us for a cup of Hot Cocoa as we travel on the Polar Express!   All aboard!!!  **



The Polar Express Movie

JOIN US! ALL ARE WELCOME!

HOT COCOA & CANDY CANES WILL BE SERVED
WEAR YOUR HOLIDAY PAJAMAS OR FESTIVE CLOTHING. BRING A BLANKET AND GET COZY AS WE TRAVEL ON THE POLAR EXPRESS!

WHEN: SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15
12:30 PM IN THE SANCTUARY

ANCHORAGE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP
2824 E. 18TH AVENUE
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99508

CONTACT JENN AT DRE@ANCHORAGEUUF.ORG FOR MORE INFO
www.anchorageuuf.org

UU Community Resilience Hub

Community resilience is a collective effort. We know many of you are already doing your part to build strong, connected, and resilient communities. This hub is designed to offer ongoing support, including the latest updates, resources, and events, to help guide you through the challenges we face. Together, we can harness our collective power to meet this moment, because democracy isn't just something we do—it's who we are, and who we strive to be.

In moments of instability and fear, we must respond with clarity and courage. It is our responsibility to leverage our resources, relationships, and collective power to defend democracy, ensure safety, and build a future where everyone can thrive. Through this hub, we offer guidance and resources on how to take action now, support each other, and build a resilient community that stands firm in the face of uncertainty.

[Click here to read more.](#)

NOVEMBER HALF PORTION FOR SOCIAL ACTION: Alaska Literacy Program

Alaska Literacy Program is a volunteer-based community agency with the mission of *changing lives through literacy*. For 50 years, we have taught adults to read, write and speak English. The learners come from all over the world, including the United States. They come to class to learn the skills needed to get and keep a job in Alaska, help their children in school, become citizens and understand their new home country.

Since 1974, ALP has been providing literacy services to Anchorage residents and individuals throughout the state. ALP recruits, trains, certifies, and supports volunteer teachers who work in a classroom setting teaching reading, writing and speaking English to adults. ALP provides these core [English language classes](#) year-round for adults and families with young children, concentrating on those most in need. In recent years we've also gained the opportunity to serve other Anchorage area adult learners such as [GED](#) students.

Over time, ALP has grown to define literacy as more than reading and writing: it includes having the skills needed to navigate our complex and rapidly changing world. It is the philosophy of Alaska Literacy Program that adults have the right to be free from the burden of illiteracy - free to function as independent, productive citizens. For ALP families, this looks like digital literacy, health literacy, financial literacy, and [family literacy](#). Through this comprehensive framework, ALP is increasing the self-sufficiency of our ELL adults, changing lives and enriching our community.

Today, ALP provides [GED test prep services](#), supporting adults to overcome this long-standing barrier to employment and career advancement. ALP's [Peer Leader Navigator](#) initiative provides information on important health and life topics to people who face barriers in finding that information themselves.

ALP is an accredited member of [ProLiteracy](#), the largest volunteer literacy organization in the world.

Go to anchorageuuf.org
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

Rev. Lise Adams Sherry, (she/ her), Minister,
RevLise@anchorageuuf.org, 907-248-3737 x2,
Office hours are usually Tu 11-3; Th and F 11-3, and by appointment

Rebecca Bernard, (she/ her), Affiliated Community Minister
RBernard.AK@gmail.com

Richard Stoneking, (he/him), Congregational Administrator
Admin@AnchorageUUF.org, 907.248.3737 x.1
Office Hours Usually Mon-Thu 11am - 3 pm, Please call first.

Jennifer Bluntach (she/her), Director of Religious Exploration
DRE@anchorageuuf.org
Office hours usually are:
Sunday 9am-11am, Tuesday 11am-3pm, Thursday, 11am-3pm, and by appointment

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

Esme Danner (she/her) Music Director
907-248-3737 x4, Music@anchorageuuf.org

Dan Norton: AV Coordinator

907-248-3737 x5, AVCoordinator@anchorageuuf.org

Contact the Connections Team for more information on how to get involved.
Connections@anchorageuuf.org

Connect with us



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ANCHORAGE
UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST
FELLOWSHIP
*diverse beliefs,
common purpose.*

Today At Our Fellowship
Thursday, November 21, 2024

This Weekend @ AUUF

Thursday 11/21/24

6:30-9:00 pm Board of Directors Meeting
6:30-8:00 pm Choir Practice with Esme in
the Sanctuary

Friday 11/22/24

8:15-11:15 am Music Together Mountain
Song
12:00-2:00 pm Freethinkers, In-Person

Saturday 11/23/24

8:30-10:30 am AA Slap Happy Group
9:00 am - 1:00 pm Worship Retreat
10:30-12:45 am Music Together Mountain
Song
1:30-3:30 pm Private Rental

Sunday 11/24/24

9:00 am The Forum In- Person at AUUF
& on ZOOM
11:00 am Earth quake drill

11:00 am Sunday Worship Service In-
Person at AUUF & on ZOOM

12:30-2:30 pm Envelope stuffing for
ACLU
12:30-2:00 pm Lunch Potluck
4:00-5:30 pm Anchorage Friends
Meeting

Monday 11/25/24

3:30- 6:00 pm Private Rental Room 5
6:30-8:00 pm Fireweed Sangha of
Mindful Living - Private Rental -Visitors
Welcome

Tuesday 11/26/24 11:00 am Staff
Meeting

6:00-7:00 pm Community Connections

Wednesday 11/27/24

**Thursday 11/28/24 & Friday
11/29/24**

Thanksgiving Office is closed



The Forum 9:00 AM Sunday November 24, 2024
IN PERSON & on Zoom
Progress on Eklutna's Long Journey Toward Building a Casino
Native Village of Eklutna President and Chief Aaron Leggett

The Forum

9:00 am Sunday, November 24, 2024
IN- Person at AUUF & on Zoom

[Click here to join on Zoom.](#)

[Click here for Speaker's bio.](#)



Sunday Worship Service 11:00 AM Sunday November 24, 2024
IN PERSON & on Zoom
Multigenerational Gratitude Service
Rev. Lise Adams Sherry

Sunday Worship In- Person at AUUF & on Zoom
11:00 am Sunday, November 24, 2024

[Click here to join on Zoom.](#)

Gratitude Soup Sunday

November 24, after the 11 am service

Seeking soup, breads and dessert donations. As well as help with set up, clean up would

be much appreciated.

Elayne Text or call 907-223-6507 to volunteer.

Post-Election Reflection and Next Steps

Dec. 4, 2024 6:30 pm at AUUF

Many of us have still been grieving and wondering what to do next regarding our anticipated society for the next four years. As one way forward, we did some brainstorming at the Program Council meeting and decided we wanted two things:

1. Another opportunity to express our feelings around the election outcomes
2. An opportunity to start digging into the question of what's next.

So, on Dec. 4, AUUF members, friends and other community members are welcome to come to the sanctuary at 6:30 pm for a time of reflection--similar to what we did November 6. Afterwards, we'll go into the social room, share some finger foods and start brainstorming how we want to take action. To begin, we'll divide into the four groups I talked about in the service on Nov. 10: People protectors, Institution Protectors, Rabble Rousers, Future Envisioners. (I'm paraphrasing these names, but hopefully you get the idea.) From these groups we hope to develop definite strategies and actions for creating the kind of Beloved Community we'd like to have. Other ideas are welcome.

If this sounds like a good way you can move forward in this challenging time, I hope to see you there.

Blessings, Rev. Lise



Grades 4-6 Our Whole Lives (OWL) Registration is now open

Grades 4-6 OWL registration is now open for Grades 4-6. Class size is limited to 12 participants. Deadline to register is December 11. Classes begin January 12, 2025. (Tentative plans are to have Grades 7-9 OWL Fall of 2025 and K-1 OWL Winter 2026)

[Click here to register.](#)

Save the Dates!

Holiday events at AUUF

Dec. 07, 2024 4:00 PM Holiday Sing -Along
Dec. 08, 2024 10:15 am & 12:15 pm Alternative Gift Fair
Dec. 08, 2024 11:00 AM Blue Holiday Service
Dec. 15, 2024 11:00 AM Multi-Generational Solstice Service
Dec. 15, 2024 12:30 PM All- ages Polar Express Movie Event
Dec. 24, 2024 6:30 PM Christmas Eve



Anchorage Unitarian Universalist Fellowship
2824 E. 18th Avenue, Anchorage, AK
anchorageuuf.org



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A Message from your Endowment Fund Committee

A question we get asked as Endowment Fund Committee members is how large of a total value does the national UUA office recommend our Endowment Fund be before disbursement? AUUF's goal for an initial possible disbursement was raised by a vote of the congregation in 2022 from \$250K to \$500K, as adjusted for inflation. The UUA

recommendation is three times our annual budget. For AUUF this would mean a little over \$1 million. By setting the disbursement goal to this lower value, AUUF believes that some benefit will occur sooner, while still creating a likely scenario of continued growth until the \$1 million mark is achieved.

A Message from Your Building and Grounds Committee

Are you handy with tools? Do you like swinging a hammer, drilling holes, and banging down nails every once in a while? If so, the AUUF Building and Grounds Committee might be the right place for you! We are looking for congregational members who are mechanically inclined to join our committee. We have a variety of projects, both large and small, that need to get done periodically throughout the year. Most of this work is done on a volunteer basis by our committee members. We meet once a month on the first Wednesday of the month at 7pm via Zoom for about an hour to discuss the status of Fellowship projects. Many hands make light work, so please join us so that the doors don't sag, the windows don't leak, and any new wall dings get fill in.

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2025 HALF PORTION FOR SOCIAL ACTION MONTHLY SCHEDULE

From the Social Action Council

[Click here to view the schedule.](#)

🚂❄️ Mark your calendars now for this fun and festive event in December! Extend invitations to your friends and family to join us for a cup of Hot Cocoa as we travel on the Polar Express! 🚂❄️ All aboard!!! ❄️🚂



The Polar Express Movie

JOIN US! ALL ARE WELCOME!

HOT COCOA & CANDY CANES WILL BE SERVED
WEAR YOUR HOLIDAY PAJAMAS OR FESTIVE CLOTHING. BRING A BLANKET AND GET COZY AS WE TRAVEL ON THE POLAR EXPRESS!

WHEN: SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15
12:30 PM IN THE SANCTUARY

ANCHORAGE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP
2824 E. 18TH AVENUE
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99508

CONTACT JENN AT DRE@ANCHORAGEUUF.ORG FOR MORE INFO
www.anchorageuuf.org

NOVEMBER HALF PORTION FOR SOCIAL ACTION: Alaska Literacy Program

Alaska Literacy Program is a volunteer-based community agency with the mission of *changing lives through literacy*. For 50 years, we have taught adults to read, write and speak English. The learners come from all over the world, including the United States. They come to class to learn the skills needed to get and keep a job in Alaska, help their children in school, become citizens and understand their new home country.

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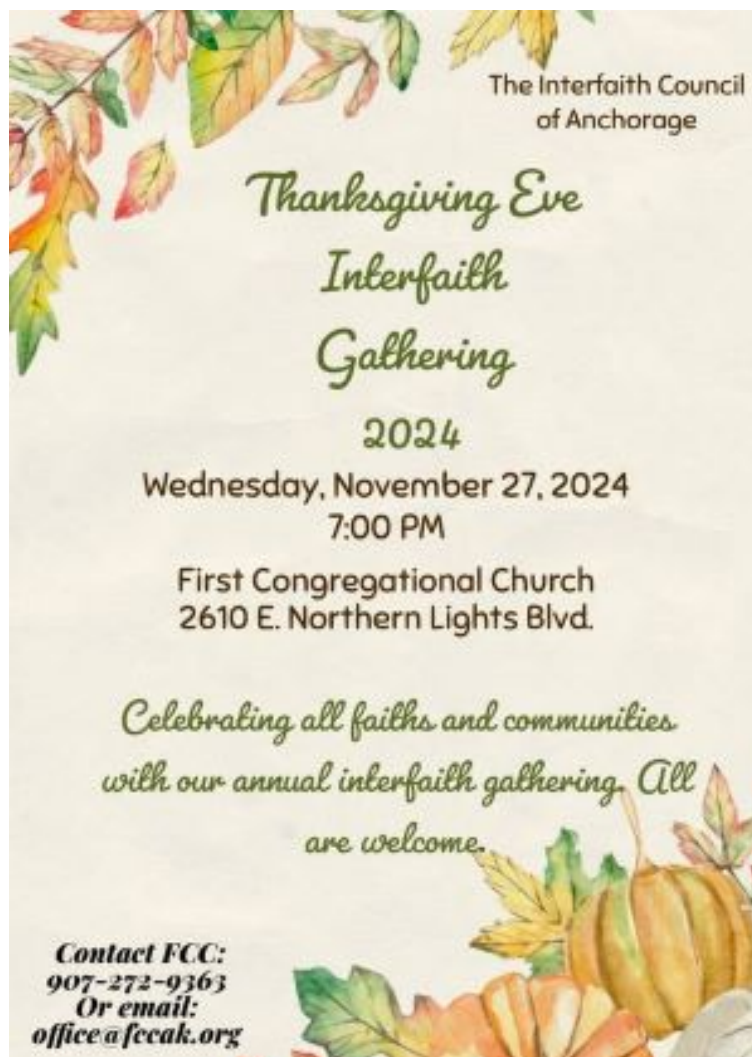
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at the bottom of the home page.
Enter your donation under
"Half-Portion for Social Action"



[Live stream link click here.](#)

Take Action: Protect Nonprofits from Federal Executive Overreach

Dear Friend,

We're writing with an urgent action request: Urge your House Member to vote NO on HR 9495, the "nonprofit killer".

UUSJ (UUs for Social Justice) explains:

H.R. 9495 could allow the federal executive to investigate, harass, and, in effect, shutter any nonprofit organization based on unilateral accusations of wrongdoing. It provides a poorly checked opportunity to strip them of their tax-exempt status and thus dismantle a civil society entity. This includes news outlets, universities, and civil liberties organizations

This could also include organizations like UUSJ and other nonprofit entities like our congregations.

Take Action: **Call** (preferable) or **email** your House Representative and demand they vote "No" on HR 9495. Use the script drafted by UUSJ or speak from your UU values.

[Click here to read the entire article.](#)

Our AUUF Covenant

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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
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Rev. Lise Adams Sherry, (she/ her), Minister,
RevLise@anchorageuuf.org, 907-248-3737 x2,
Office hours are usually Tu 11-3; Th and F 11-3, and by appointment

Rebecca Bernard, (she/ her), Affiliated Community Minister
RBernard.AK@gmail.com

Richard Stoneking, (he/him), Congregational Administrator
Admin@AnchorageUUF.org, 907.248.3737 x.1
Office Hours Usually Mon-Thu 11am - 3 pm, Please call first.

Jennifer Bluntach (she/her), Director of Religious Exploration
DRE@anchorageuuf.org
Office hours usually are:
Sunday 9am-11am, Tuesday 11am-3pm, Thursday, 11am-3pm, and by appointment

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

Esme Danner (she/her) Music Director
907-248-3737 x4, Music@anchorageuuf.org

Dan Norton: AV Coordinator
907-248-3737 x5, AVCoordinator@anchorageuuf.org

Contact the Connections Team for more information on how to get involved.
Connections@anchorageuuf.org

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UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST
FELLOWSHIP
*diverse beliefs,
common purpose.*

Today At Our Fellowship
Thursday, November 28, 2024

This Weekend @ AUUF

Thursday 11/28/24

Thanksgiving Day Office is closed.

Friday 11/29/24

Thanksgiving Holiday office is closed.

10:00 am - 10:00 pm Private Rental

12:00-2:00 pm Freethinkers, In-Person

Saturday 11/30/24

8:30-10:30 am AA Slap Happy Group

Sunday 12/1/24

9:00 am The Forum In- Person at AUUF
& on ZOOM

11:00 am Sunday Worship Service In-
Person at AUUF & on ZOOM

4:00-5:30 pm Anchorage Friends Meeting

Monday 12/2/24

3:30- 6:00 pm Private Rental Room 5

6:30-8:00 pm Fireweed Sangha of
Mindful Living - Private Rental -Visitors
Welcome

Tuesday 12/3/24

4:30-6:30 pm Forum Planning on Zoom

5:00-9:00 pm Private Rental

6:00-7:00 pm Community Connections

Wednesday 12/4/24

5:00-8:00 pm Connections Team Meeting

6:30-8:30 pm Post Election: Reflection
and Next Steps

7:00-8:30 pm Building & Grounds
Meeting - Zoom

Thursday 12/5/24

5:30-7:30 pm Anti-Racism Team Meeting
Library & Zoom

6:30 – 8:00 pm Choir Practice
Sanctuary



The Forum 9:00 AM Sunday Dec. 1, 2024 IN PERSON & on Zoom
Looking Back at the Last Legislature, Looking Forward to the Next
Alaska State Senator Forrest Dunbar

The Forum In- Person at AUUF & on Zoom 9:00 am Sunday, Dec.1, 2024

One Wedding and Some Numerals—A Fresh Look at Housing
Alaska State Senator Forrest Dunbar

[Click here to join on Zoom.](#)
[Click here for Speaker's Bio.](#)



Sunday Worship Service 11:00 AM Sunday Dec. 1, 2024
IN PERSON & on Zoom
Staying Present With Difficult People
Lauren Rench, Maribeth Snell

Sunday Worship In- Person at AUUF & on Zoom 11:00 am Sunday, Dec.1, 2024

AUUF's worship team is thrilled to see so many new and returning faces at our 11:00 AM services! We'd like to encourage everyone to find their seat in the sanctuary promptly by 11 AM, postponing longer conversations until after the service. Our reasons for this include:

- silent respect for our Music Director Esme Danner's work in finding, rehearsing and playing wonderful music for our preludes, including little known works that are

helping expand our musical universe,

- courtesy to newer attendees who otherwise find themselves among the "few in the pews" when they first enter the sanctuary,
- your help in creating a calm, peaceful atmosphere as we gather to explore our UU values, and
- respect for our land acknowledgement, read at the start of each service.

Thanks in advance for doing what you can to help create our beloved community

[Click here to join on Zoom.](#)

Sad News

Dear Ones,

I found out on Tuesday, that AUUF member, Susie Kobierowski, died earlier this week. My understanding is that she fell and received a head injury about a year ago, which was followed by fast onset dementia. I know you all will join me in sending love and healing thoughts to Susie's family.

Susie was most recently active with the Green Sanctuary, and choir and had been a member for many years. A couple of years ago, she invited her son to play the bagpipes for one of our Zoom only services--she did the filming of Jakob playing his pipes up in the hills with the Anchorage Bowl down below. It was lovely!

We don't know yet if Susie's family is planning on having any kind of memorial. When we hear news, we'll let you know. In the meantime, cards may be sent to:

19307 Second St.,
Eagle River, AK 99577.

Please take care of one another.

Blessings, Rev. Lise

Post-Election Reflection and Next Steps

Dec. 4, 2024 6:30 pm at AUUF

Many of us have still been grieving and wondering what to do next regarding our anticipated society for the next four years. As one way forward, we did some brainstorming at the Program Council meeting and decided we wanted two things:

1. Another opportunity to express our feelings around the election outcomes
2. An opportunity to start digging into the question of what's next.

So, on Dec. 4, AUUF members, friends and other community members are welcome to come to the sanctuary at 6:30 pm for a time of reflection--similar to what we did November 6. Afterwards, we'll go into the social room, share some finger foods and start brainstorming how we want to take action. To begin, we'll divide into the four groups I talked about in the service on Nov. 10: People protectors, Institution Protectors, Rabble Rousers, Future Envisioners. (I'm paraphrasing these names, but hopefully you get the idea.) From these groups we hope to develop definite strategies and actions for creating

the kind of Beloved Community we'd like to have. Other ideas are welcome.

If this sounds like a good way you can move forward in this challenging time, I hope to see you there.

Blessings, Rev. Lise

Alternative Gift Fair

Online from Thursday, December 5 to Sunday, December 15

Once again, the Fellowship is having our annual Alternative Gift Fair for the holiday season. There is no greater gift than one that expands the giving. There are those who are dear to us who want nothing more than to make the world a better place. There are those causes whose purposes are to do just that. When we consider just the right gift for the special people in our lives, let's consider donating in their honor to the causes in the Alternative Gift Fair. Representatives of the nonprofits selected for this year's Fair will be on-hand on Sunday December 8th to tell you about their agencies and missions. From Thursday, December 5 to Sunday, December 15, you can go online to see the many organizations that could use our help in continuing their efforts to heal and brighten our world. You will receive a personal link to the donation site (the same one we use for auctions) and we'll also have a link in next week's TAOF.



Endowment Fund Celebration!

On Sunday November 17, the Endowment Fund Committee hosted a "Half-Way Goal Celebration" for the congregation before and after the 11am service. Committee members Carol Harris, Irene O'Brien, David O'Brien, and Jame Denney were present to serve up chocolate cake and sparkling cider. The event was to recognize the congregation's achievement in surpassing the 50% threshold for our goal of achieving a \$500,000 balance (adjusted of inflation) for the Endowment Fund. As of last month, the balance was about \$263,000. Once the goal is reached, the Fellowship many choose to withdraw up to 4 percent of the balance each year for use in various projects.



(OWL) Registration is now open

Grades 4-6 OWL registration is now open for Grades 4-6. Class size is limited to 12 participants. Deadline to register is December 11. Classes begin January 12, 2025. (Tentative plans are to have Grades 7-9 OWL Fall of 2025 and K-1 OWL Winter 2026)

[Click here to register.](#)

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Dec. 24, 2024 6:30 PM Christmas Eve



Anchorage Unitarian Universalist Fellowship
2824 E. 18th Avenue, Anchorage, AK
anchorageuuf.org

A Message from Your Building and Grounds Committee

Are you handy with tools? Do you like swinging a hammer, drilling holes, and banging down nails every once in a while? If so, the AUUF Building and Grounds Committee might be the right place for you! We are looking for congregational members who are mechanically inclined to join our committee. We have a variety of projects, both large and small, that need to get done periodically throughout the year. Most of this work is done on a volunteer basis by our committee members. We meet once a month on the first Wednesday of the month at 7pm via Zoom for about an hour to discuss the status of Fellowship projects. Many hands make light work, so please join us so that the doors don't sag, the windows don't leak, and any new wall dings get fill in.

Please call or text committee member David O'Brien at 907-720-0648 for more information.

 Mark your calendars now for this fun and festive event in December! Extend invitations to your friends and family to join us for a cup of Hot Cocoa as we travel on the Polar Express!  All aboard!!! 



The Polar Express Movie

JOIN US! ALL ARE WELCOME!

HOT COCOA & CANDY CANES WILL BE SERVED
WEAR YOUR HOLIDAY PAJAMAS OR FESTIVE CLOTHING. BRING A BLANKET AND GET COZY AS WE TRAVEL ON THE POLAR EXPRESS!

WHEN: SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15
12:30 PM IN THE SANCTUARY

ANCHORAGE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP
2824 E. 18TH AVENUE
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99508

CONTACT JENN AT DRE@ANCHORAGEUUF.ORG FOR MORE INFO
www.anchorageuuf.org

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I look forward to our discussion regarding these forward-looking issues, and the work that got us where we are. We could not look forward confidently without community support. Thank you again to the Fellowship for continuing to be a keystone for AKIP's important work.

Respectfully and gratefully yours,

Jory Knott
Executive Director
Alaska Innocence Project
jory@alaskainnocence.org
alaskainnocence.org

Go to anchorageuuf.org
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"

Take Action: Protect Nonprofits from Federal Executive Overreach

Dear Friend,

We're writing with an urgent action request: Urge your House Member to vote NO on HR 9495, the "nonprofit killer".

UUSJ (UUs for Social Justice) explains:

H.R. 9495 could allow the federal executive to investigate, harass, and, in effect, shutter any nonprofit organization based on unilateral accusations of wrongdoing. It provides a poorly checked opportunity to strip them of their tax-exempt status and thus dismantle a civil society entity. This includes news outlets, universities, and civil liberties organizations

This could also include organizations like UUSJ and other nonprofit entities like our congregations.

Take Action: **Call** (preferable) or **email** your House Representative and demand they vote "No" on HR 9495. Use the script drafted by UUSJ or speak from your UU values.

[Click here to read the entire article.](#)

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We hold each of us and all of this amazing world worthy of our attention, compassion and care.

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Dan Norton: AV Coordinator

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UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST
FELLOWSHIP
*diverse beliefs,
common purpose.*

Today At Our Fellowship Thursday, December 5, 2024

This Weekend @ AUUF

Thursday 12/5/24 5:30 – 7:00 pm Anti-Racism Team Meeting
6:30 – 8:00 pm Choir Practice

Friday 12/6/24

8:15 – 11:15 am Music Together
Mountain Song
12:00 – 2:00 pm Freethinkers at AUUF
2:00 – 3:00 pm Stewardship Committee Meeting

Saturday 12/7/24

8:30 – 10:30 am AA-Slap Happy Group at AUUF
10:30am – 12:45 pm Music Together
Mountain Song
1:30 – 3:30 pm Private Rental Sanctuary
4:00 – 6:00 pm Holiday Sing
Along Sanctuary

Sunday 12/8/24

9:00 – 10:15am The Forum only on Zoom
10:15am – 12:15 pm Alternative Gift Fair Social Room
11am – 12:00 pm Sunday Worship Live at AUUF & on Zoom

Sunday 12/8/24 (continued)

12:30 – 2:00 pm OWL Teacher meeting
12:30 – 2:00 pm The Alliance - At AUUF Upstairs Library
1:30 – 3:30pm Karyn Grove-Bruce Violin Recital - All are welcome!
1:30 – 2:30 pm Worship Associate Meeting on Zoom
4:00 – 5:30pm Anchorage Friends Meeting Sanctuary & Social Room

Monday 12/9/24

3:00 – 6:00 pm Private Rental
6:30 – 8:00 pm Fireweed Sangha of Mindful Living - Private Rental Visitors Welcome

Tuesday 12/10/24

11:00 am – 12pm Staff Meeting
2:00 – 3:30 pm Hungry Book Club
6:00 – 7:00 pm Community Connection - Private Room 8

Wednesday 12/11/24

Thursday 12/12/24

5:15 – 7:00 pm Welcoming Congregation Team Meeting Library
5:30 – 7:00 pm CYRE Team Meeting - In Person & Zoom
6:30 – 8:00 pm Choir Practice Sanctuary

**Just a reminder about this Saturday!
Coloring pages will be available. Apple
Cider will be served following the Sing
Along. You can also bring a holiday treat to
share if you wish- cookies, bars, etc. Hope
you can join us for a fun and festive
afternoon!**



ALASKA
INNOCENCE PROJECT
WE FREE WRONGFULLY
CONVICTED ALASKANS...

TJ Edwards and his two sons at an AKIP Public Event

Marvin Roberts of the Fairbanks Four embraces his mother in the courthouse shortly after his exoneration



The Forum 9:00 AM Sunday Dec. 8, 2024

IN PERSON & on Zoom

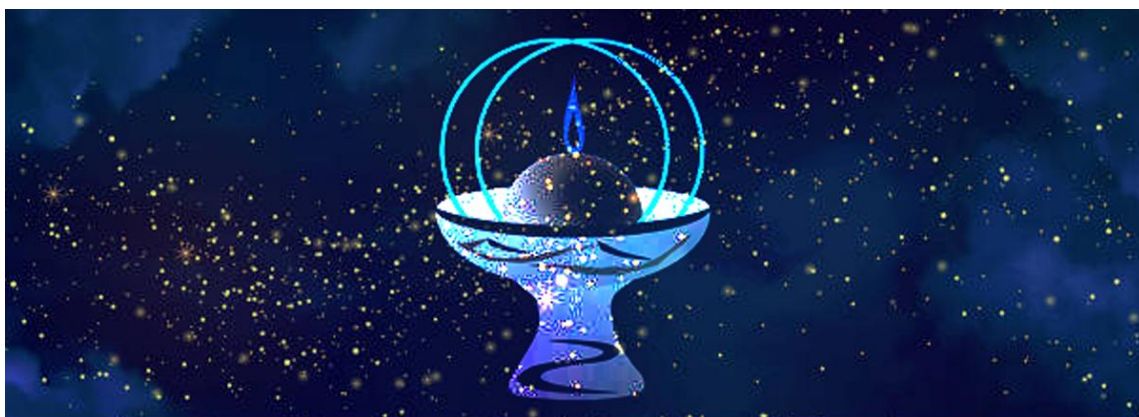
Fighting for the Wrongly Incarcerated—Precedents, Policies, and Prevention

Jory Knott, Executive Director, Alaska Innocence Project

The Forum In- Person at AUUF & on Zoom
9:00 am Sunday, Dec.8, 2024

[Click here to join on Zoom.](#)

[Click here for Speaker's Bio.](#)



Sunday Worship Service 11:00 AM Sunday Dec. 8, 2024
IN PERSON & on Zoom
Blue Holiday Service
Rev. Lise Adams Sherry

Sunday Worship In- Person at AUUF & on Zoom 11:00 am Sunday, Dec.8, 2024

Blue Holiday Service
With Rev. Lise Adams Sherry & Renee Frost

[Click here to join on Zoom.](#)



Alternative Gift Fair

Online from Thursday, December 5 to Sunday, December 15

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HS Youth Holiday Party Games!

These are some of the holiday games planned for the High School youth at AUUF THIS Sunday!

If you have teens in grades 9-12, this would be an opportunity for the older youth to get together and just have fun! If they want to bring friends... great! The more the merrier!

My hope is it will plant the seed to grow interest in involvement again in this age group as we continue to build community.



Oh...and there will be jelly donuts (a tradition from Hanukkah)

💋 Tic Tac Mistletoe, The winner gets the KISSES! (hershey kisses that is) 💋



Pull The String Win A Prize! fun party game





Mitten Tree (Hats & Scarves are welcome too)

A tree will be set up at AUUF to start collecting mittens, hats, and scarves to distribute to those in need this winter season. Infant sizes to Adult Sizes- all are appreciated!

You can start bringing items this Saturday, December 7 (the holiday song- along) to Sunday December 15 (the multi-gen solstice service)

Thank you in advance!



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Dan Norton: AV Coordinator

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FELLOWSHIP
*diverse beliefs,
common purpose.*

Today At Our Fellowship
Thursday, December 12, 2024

This Weekend @ AUUF

Thursday 12/12/24

5:15 – 7:00 pm Welcoming Congregation
Team Meeting in the Library
5:30 – 7:00 pm CYRE Team Meeting
6:30 – 8:00 pm Choir Practice in the
Sanctuary with Esme

Friday 12/13/24

8:15 – 11:15 am Music Together
Mountain Song
12:00 – 2:00 pm Freethinkers at AUUF in
Room 7

Saturday 12/14/24

8:30 – 10:30 am AA-Slap Happy Group
at AUUF
10:30am – 12:45 pm Music Together
Mountain Song

Sunday 12/15/24

**9:00 – 10:15am The Forum Live at
AUUF & on Zoom**

**11am – 12:00 pm Sunday Worship Live
at AUUF & on Zoom**

Sunday 12/15/24 (continued)

12:00 pm Soup Sunday Social Room
12:30 – 3:00 pm Polar Express Movie
12:30 – 2:30 pm Envelope Stuffing for
ACLU Library & Downstairs
4 – 5:30 pm Anchorage Friends
Meeting Sanctuary & Social Room

Monday 12/16/24

6:30 – 8:00 pm Fireweed Sangha of
Mindful Living - Private Rental Visitors
Welcome

Tuesday 12/17/24

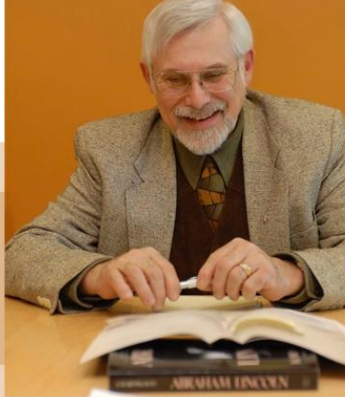
6:00 – 7:00 pm Community Connection -
Private Room 8

Wednesday 12/18/24

6:30 – 8:30 pm Finance Committee
Meeting

Thursday 12/19/24

6:30 – 9:00 pm Board of Directors
Meeting - In Person (Zoom-Contact Don)
6:30 – 8:00 pm Choir Practice Sanctuary



The Forum 9:00 AM Sunday Dec. 15, 2024 IN PERSON at AUUF & on Zoom
Anti-democracy in America and the Arc of History
UAA History Professor Emeritus Dr. Stephen Haycox

The Forum In- Person at AUUF & on Zoom
9:00 am Sunday, Dec.15, 2024

[Click here to join on Zoom.](#)
[Click here for Speaker's Bio.](#)



Sunday Worship Service 11:00 AM Sunday Dec. 15, 2024
IN PERSON at AUUF & on Zoom
Multi-Generational Solstice Service
Rev. Lise Adams Sherry

Sunday Worship In- Person at AUUF & on Zoom
11:00 am Sunday, Dec.15, 2024

[Click here to join on Zoom.](#)

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Alternative
Gift Fair

Alternative Gift Fair

Online until Sunday, December 15

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[Click here to visit the Alternative Gift Fair.](#)

Mitten Tree (Hats & Scarves are welcome too)

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You can start bringing items this Saturday, December 7 (the holiday song- along) to Sunday December 15 (the multi-gen solstice service)

Thank you in advance!



YOU CAN JUST STUFF IT!

Dennis Arashiro

Envelopes that is! We will be stuffing envelopes this Sunday after the Worship Service for the ACLU Prison Project. Newsletters will be going out this holiday season to those incarcerated to provide them with news and information to help them take positive steps in their lives. But what a time to do it! After the Worship Service there will be a Soup Sunday in the social room and a holiday film in the Sanctuary. There will be no space at the inn; so, we will have to be elsewhere. Join us in the:

DOWNSTAIRS MAIN ROOM for ENVELOPE STUFFING

Bring your Soup Sunday fixings with you downstairs and stuff some envelopes while you munch and slurp. The more active among you can haul the stuffed envelopes upstairs to the:

LIBRARY for ADDRESS LABELLING

Bring your LAPTOP or SMARTPHONE to confirm correct addresses to label the envelopes, so that they get to the right people by Christmas. You can still partake in Soup Sunday goodies while you make the holidays a little brighter for those who will greatly appreciate it.

SEE YOU SUNDAY!

Sunday Hospitality: We All Must Play a Role

Please help the Connections team as we work to grow and strengthen our Fellowship. Here are a few simple things we can all do that will help:

- If you see someone you don't recognize or haven't seen in quite a while, please greet them warmly.
- Wear your name tag, smile and say hello.
- Watch for those who appear a bit lost or alone, introduce yourself, ask if you can help and invite them into conversation.
- Invite folks to coffee hour and introduce them to others.

All these simple things can make a big difference and will help us make our Fellowship appealing. Contact connections@anchorageuuf.org if you want more ideas or have some to offer. Thanks!



Grades 4-6 Our Whole Lives (OWL) Grades 4-6 Update

Grades 4-6 OWL (Our Whole Lives) Grades Class start date has changed to Sunday, January 26, 2025, 1:00 pm-3:00 pm in Room 7.

More information on what this program entails can be [found here](#).

RE Holiday Parties & Games

The HS Youth (and teachers 😊) had a fun day of holiday games to wrap up 2024!

We didn't catch pictures of the other age groups yesterday- it was busy, a tad crazy 😊 and lots of fun!!! Scavenger hunt, pass the present, learning about Hanukkah, Christmas, and Kwanza happened in our other class. And...everyone had jelly donuts- a Hanukkah tradition!

Watch for 2025 RE details to be sent out before the end of the year. 🎉🎉🎉

RE classes start back up Sunday, January 5 with the exception of HS Youth. HS Youth will kick off the new year on Sunday, January 12 with an indoor/outdoor scavenger hunt followed by a series of minute to win it challenges.

**Happy Holidays and Happy New Year!
Jenn Bluntach, DRE**

Childcare for littles is available for Sunday services and Christmas Eve through the holidays. RE classes start back up Sunday . . .





Save the Dates!

Holiday events at AUUF

until
the 15th!

~~Dec. 07, 2024 4:00 PM Holiday Sing Along~~
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Anchorage Unitarian Universalist Fellowship
(907) 248-3737

Rev. Lise Adams Sherry, (she/ her), Minister,
RevLise@anchorageuuf.org, 907-248-3737 x2,
Office hours are usually Tu 11-3; Th and F 11-3, and by appointment

Rebecca Bernard, (she/ her), Affiliated Community Minister
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Richard Stoneking, (he/him), Congregational Administrator
Admin@AnchorageUUF.org, 907.248.3737 x.1
Office Hours Usually Mon-Thu 11am - 3 pm, Please call first.

Jennifer Bluntach (she/her), Director of Religious Exploration
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Office hours usually are:
Sunday 9am-11am, Tuesday 11am-3pm, Thursday, 11am-3pm, and by appointment

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

Esme Danner (she/her) Music Director
907-248-3737 x4, Music@anchorageuuf.org

Dan Norton: AV Coordinator
907-248-3737 x5, AVCoordinator@anchorageuuf.org

Contact the Connections Team for more information on how to get involved.
Connections@anchorageuuf.org

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ANCHORAGE
UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST
FELLOWSHIP
*diverse beliefs,
common purpose.*

Today At Our Fellowship
Thursday, December 19, 2024

This Weekend @ AUUF

Thursday 12/19/24

6:30 – 9:00 pm Board of Directors
Meeting - In Person (Zoom-Contact Don)
6:30 – 8pm Choir Practice with Esme in
the Sanctuary

Friday 12/20/24

12:00 – 2:00 pm Freethinkers at AUUF in
Room 7

Saturday 12/21/24

8:30 – 10:30 am AA-Slap Happy Group
at AUUF
12:00 – 4:30pm Dawn Danner
Memorial Upstairs
3:00 – 6:00 pm Coming of Age Group
Adventure: Solstice Activities at
Bear Tooth Theatre pub

Sunday 12/22/24

9:00 – 10:15 am The Forum Live at
AUUF & on Zoom

11am – 12:00 pm Sunday Worship Live
at AUUF & on Zoom

Sunday 12/22/24 (continued)

4 – 5:30 pm Anchorage Friends
Meeting Sanctuary & Social Room

Monday 12/23/24

6:30 – 8:00 pm Fireweed Sangha of
Mindful Living - Private Rental Visitors
Welcome

Tuesday 12/24/24

6:30 – 8:00 pm Christmas Eve
Service Sanctuary
6:00 – 7:00 pm Community Connection -
Private Room 8

Wednesday 12/25/24

6:30 – 8:30 pm Finance Committee
Meeting

Thursday 12/26/24

6:30 – 8:00 pm Choir Practice in the
Sanctuary with Esme

In Memory of Dawn Danner

Saturday, December 21 at 1 PM

To our AUUF family,

Please join us this Saturday, December 21 at 1 PM at AUUF for the memorial for Dawn Danner. The wife of Lars and mother of our musical director, Esme, she was a delightful new member. If you'd like to help with the reception, please contact Katherine at 907-342-9890.

Thank you,
Katherine



The Forum 9:00 AM Sunday Dec. 22, 2024
IN PERSON & on Zoom
Life Lessons from the John Muir Trail
Rev. Lise Adams Sherry

The Forum In- Person at AUUF & on Zoom
9:00 am Sunday, Dec. 22, 2024

[Click here to join on Zoom.](#)
[Click here for Speaker's Bio.](#)



Sunday Worship Service 11:00 AM Sunday Dec. 22, 2024
IN PERSON & on Zoom
Oh Tannenbaum!
Rev. Lise Sherry, Dennis Arashiro

Sunday Worship In- Person at AUUF & on Zoom
11:00 am Sunday, Dec. 22, 2024

[Click here to join on Zoom.](#)



Join us Christmas Eve, 6:30 pm

We'll be telling our Christmas Eve story again, with honorable mentions to a few other traditions. So please come dressed as your favorite wise person, barnyard animal, angel or . . . your imagination is your limit. We will have some costume items to share so come a little early if you need to prep at AUUF. We'll finish our service with candlelight and song. If you'd like to bring cookies to share after the service, please do so.

Happy Holidays!

Holiday Schedule- Offices closed

AUUF offices will be closed and staff will be on vacation starting Dec. 25, 2024- and returning Jan 2, 2025.

We will publish a version of Today at Our Fellowship on Thursday Dec. 26th scheduled in advance, but submissions will be due by 10 am on Dec 23, 2024.

If you have pastoral care emergency during the holiday break call or text Rev Lise on her cell phone 503-999-2061.

Thank you & Happy Holidays!

It takes the whole village—our AUUF village!
Happy Holidays!!

I hope you've been enjoying the season, however you may celebrate. I realize that for some of us, this may be a choice to not celebrate. I ran into a friend just the other day and discovered he has a strong aversion to Christmas. He doesn't like the forced cheer, the unrealistic expectations, the stress and busyness of trying to get everything just right. It's a challenging time of year for him, and many folks also have loved ones they're missing. My heart goes out to you if you're having difficulties right now. Please take care of yourself and enjoy each small moment you can, holiday related or not. And do reach out if you need some help.

For those of us in the thick of the season, at AUUF we have a few more "events" to go. This Sunday I'll be sharing about my John Muir Trip at the Forum and the Worship Service will be about Christmas Trees and traditions. Christmas Eve, our multigenerational service will begin at 6:30 pm and will tell the Christmas Eve story with participation from most all of you, whether you play a character or cheer others on from the audience. . . . Our multigenerational services are meant to be a time when all ages can come together, maybe learn a little something, share some fun and build community. Because we have all ages together things can be a little more unpredictable than when we have just adults—this is part of what I love about our multigenerational services. There are more wiggles in the room, unexpected questions and a bit of wandering in the aisles. All of this is lovely and age appropriate. If it's something you haven't experienced before, I hope you can encourage our young ones and their parents with a smile, maybe even a giggle. We have drawing paper, some books and quiet toys over by the AV booth—maybe you'd like to draw a picture with a youngster while their parent tends to another child? Or you can encourage them when we do movement poems or sing. Our village is pretty great, and it takes us all, with our many gifts and variety of experiences, to nurture our children, their parents and one another. . . .

But back to Christmas Eve, please come dressed as your favorite wise person, shepherd, barnyard animal or angel. We'll have some costumes available as well—come a little early if you need to get dressed up at AUUF. We'll finish with candlelight as we sing *Silent Night, Holy Night*.

Finally, I want to announce, for those of you who may not have heard, that I will be going on a three month sabbatical in just three months. As part of my Letter of Agreement, I earn one month of sabbatical for every year I work, and I can take that time after my fourth complete year of service at AUUF. This time away is meant to be both rejuvenating and a learning experience. The hope is that I'll come back with renewed energy and ideas and that the congregation will experience some different ways of doing things in my absence. Between our combined new experiences we can then join together with a clearer vision of how we'd like to do things and where we'd like to go. Now, I don't think either of us should set ourselves up for unrealistic expectations that we'll turn the world upside down for the better upon my return, but I do imagine there will be some shifts. ☺

The official dates of my sabbatical are from March 17, 2025, through June 15, 2025. On my way home, I'm going to stop in Baltimore for our 2025 General Assembly and then I'll be back in the pulpit June 29, 2025. AUUF will have some part-time ministerial help in my absence for some Worship Services and pastoral care. Other congregants will be stepping up to help as well and we'll be providing more details in January. Kath Rutherford, one of our Board members, is our sabbatical liaison so you can ask her questions as well, or offer your help. Another thing to know is that part of my Letter of Agreement is that after my sabbatical the congregation and I covenant (promise) to continue our partnership for at least one more year. This is to assure everyone that my sabbatical doesn't turn into a long goodbye. I'm excited to see how our AUUF village creates and helps community in my absence—I always learn so much from you!

Hopefully I'll see you Sunday and/or Christmas Eve. In the meantime, please take care and find solace and joy in the returning light.

Blessings, Rev. Lise

A Message from your Board of Directors

The membership of AUUF governs the Fellowship in all major decisions affecting the congregation, including selection of our 7-member board. The Board is thus subject to the direction of you, the fellowship. Do you know your board members? A list of your current board members can be found on the AUUF web page [here](#).

So how does the Fellowship provide direction to the Board? The Board meets monthly throughout the year on the 3rd Thursday. These meetings are open to our membership and provide a space for individuals to address the Board. Meeting agendas and minutes are subsequently posted in the social room and on the web page (though we need to be better at doing this in a timely manner). The Fellowship also conducts an annual business meeting on the first Sunday in May during which we can select board members, pass the annual budget, and conduct other business defined in our bylaws.

How good is the communication between the board and membership through these channels? Well, we think we can do better. Beginning this month, various board members will be posting monthly articles to TAOF to share some of the activities of the board and the accomplishments around the Fellowship. Today I would like to provide a reminder and an update on a couple of efforts undertaken over the last year: the Congregational Survey and the Strategic Plan.

The 2024 Congregational Survey was conducted during March of this year. A summary of the results of the survey was presented at our 2024 Annual Business Meeting in May. A copy of that report has now been posted on the AUUF homepage and can be found [here](#). Since the annual meeting, additional team/committee specific reports have been prepared and distributed, each of which summarize the comments/suggestions pertinent to the said team or committee. (Many thanks to Marty Freeman for all her time parsing data and developing reports!)

One of the big take-aways from the survey for me is that many of us seem to be looking for new opportunities to socialize and to be together. Certainly, we can make that a reality! I encourage you all to open the report and spend some time reviewing the results. Please read it not only to confirm that we have captured the current pulse of the Fellowship, but also with an eye toward specific areas where you might engage to help us realize the AUUF community that we strive to be. Would you like to coordinate a movie night, sock-hop, trivia night?

Our Strategic Plan was initially prepared at our Board Retreat in October of 2023. The plan was presented to the Congregation at this year's annual business meeting. It was subsequently updated in October of 2024 of this year to ensure alignment with input received through the Congregational Survey and with completed tasks and accomplishments. The Strategic Plan has been posted to our website homepage and can be found [here](#).

So, what has been accomplished from our strategic planning efforts? While we have much that we still want to do, we also have successes to celebrate. We are fully staffed

(hoorah)! Our RE programs have been reinvigorated by the efforts of Jennifer and Lise. (We believe that a strong RE program will lead to membership growth.) We completed our permitting process and hosted Peace Camp again this summer. We are hosting more social events at the Fellowship. We have developed partnerships with ACLU and the Emergency Cold Weather Shelter for Families. We have improved our online functionality and simultaneously increased our in-person numbers at the Forum and Worship Services. Each of these items are tied to at least one of our goals and objectives for Recovery, Outreach, Sustainability, and Growth that you will find defined in the Strategic Plan.

I want to highlight one area in our strategic planning that needs renewed focus: new revenue generation. (This is not a plea for more pledging – so please keep reading.) We have discussed the need for new revenue each of the last two years as we passed deficit budgets (annual spending greater than annual income). However, we have yet to have a year of deficit spending because of persistent staffing vacancies. Now we are fully staffed and will most likely spend all that we have budgeted for this fiscal year, which will require spending approximately \$30,000 from operating reserves. This greatly suggests that we need to revive a new revenue discussion as part of our long-term planning.

In 2023 we did establish a New Revenue Task Force. The group met over several months and created a shortlist of workable ideas for new revenue. Ideas included promoting AUUF as a wedding venue; providing handyman services to members and friends; and various social events at the fellowship (e.g. trivia night). But the task force lost members and momentum. We need new members, and we need a task force champion! No special financial skills are required - just a little time and imagination. Don't underestimate your ability to contribute. Of note, many of the ideas for revenue generation directly overlapped with the desire for more social activities! Contact me or another board member if you would like to help restart this task force.

Both the Congregational Survey Summary Report and the Strategic Plan present new opportunities for communication with and direction to the Board. The Board can facilitate, but we need your help. Please share your ideas and suggestions and explore areas of personal interest where you might engage to help us accomplish our goals. One way to do so is through the new suggestion/feedback cards found in the sanctuary and social room. Drop these cards in the suggestion box located under the Gratitude Tree and they will be discussed at the next board meeting!

Wishing you and your families a peaceful holiday season. Love and Light,

Don Antrobus
Board President

Invitation from the Welcoming Congregation Action Team

The Welcoming Congregation Action Team is working toward the yearly renewal of our fellowship as a Welcoming Congregation for the LGBTQ+ community. As part of the renewal, we will be offering a course called Transgender Inclusion in Congregations that was developed by the Transforming Hearts Collective. We hope you'll join us! Here is a short description of the course from the Collective's website:

This course is for individuals, groups, and congregational teams who want to take their

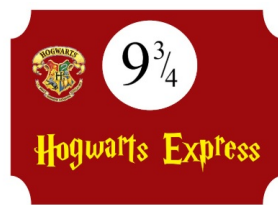
knowledge and skills to the next level in terms of trans identity and how to create congregations that are fully inclusive and affirming of the full breadth of gender diversity.

Over six sessions you will deeply explore the intersection of trans identity, spirituality, and faith community, and gain the grounding, context, and skills to transform yourself and your congregation.

Each of the six sessions includes a one-hour presentation by UU Rev. Mykal Slack followed by an hour of discussion. While we encourage you to attend all the sessions, you can attend only those that work for your schedule and interest. Please use the following link to see more information about the [topic of each session here](#).

The course will be offered in the AUUF sanctuary on six Friday evenings in 2025: January 24 and 31; February 7, 21 and 28; and March 7. Soup and bread will be served at every session, with dinner starting at 6 pm and the presentation and discussion going from 6:30 to 8:30. There is no cost to you, though we might ask you to bring some soup to share!

If you have questions, you can contact Kath Rutherford at 530-636-3019 or krutherford13@gmail.com.



Peace Camp planning for 2025 will begin in the New Year!



This year, "The Wizardly World of Peace Camp", will take place June 9-13. Wizard themed but with a spin on UU Values. Will you be in the Cabin of Gratitude? Justice? What potions can demonstrate transformation?

Every wizard needs a fine wand...crafting

and creating what uniquely comes from your imagination will be celebrated!

Every wizard is sure to get thirsty. Maybe a class in butterbeer making is in order as a refreshment from casting spells all day...

Those broomstick rides (bike rides) will explore the trails of the land...

Oh, and the ideas that are sure to come from brainstorming together....Join us!

If you have previously helped plan Peace Camp, or are a newbie like me, please consider joining us on the following dates and times in the Library at AUUF.

Thursday, January 23 at 1pm

Thursday, February 20 at 1pm

Wednesday, March 26 at 1pm

Wednesday, April 23 at 1pm

More dates and times will be announced the closer we get to camp.

We are so fortunate to have Rosene Beachy join us and be a part of Peace Camp in 2025 as well! Thanks to Rosene and the hard working team, Peace Camp also has accreditation from the ACA (American Camp Association)! I look forward to learning from

the best and beloved former AUUF DRE director on this camp planning journey.

Jenn Bluntach, DRE
Director of Religious Exploration



Grades 4-6 Our Whole Lives (OWL) Grades 4-6 Update

Grades 4-6 OWL (Our Whole Lives) Grades Class start date has changed to Sunday, January 26, 2025, 1:00 pm-3:00 pm in Room 7.

More information on what this program entails can be [found here](#).



RE (Religious Exploration) in the NEW YEAR!

RE Classes start back up after winter break on January 5 for Pre-K and Grade School/MS Kids.

Our Soul Matters theme in January is Story..

January 5 - Stories and You: The practice of building your unique identity.

January 12 - Stories and Friendship: The practice of building meaningful connections.

January 19 - Stories and Social Change: The practice of building the future we hope for.

January 26 - Stories and Religion: The practice of building our UU identity

HS Youth will meet at 11am in Room 8 on Sunday, January 12 for a New Year Kick-Off of Minute to Win It Games and Indoor/Outdoor Scavenger Hunt

RE Holiday Parties & Games

The HS Youth (and teachers 😊) had a fun day of holiday games to wrap up 2024!

We didn't catch pictures of the other age groups yesterday- it was busy, a tad crazy 😊 and lots of fun!!! Scavenger hunt, pass the present, learning about Hanukkah, Christmas, and Kwanza happened in our other class. And...everyone had jelly donuts- a Hanukkah tradition!

Watch for 2025 RE details to be sent out before the end of the year. 🎉🎉🎉

RE classes start back up Sunday, January 5 with the exception of HS Youth. HS Youth will kick off the new year on Sunday, January 12 with an indoor/outdoor scavenger hunt followed by a series of minute to win it challenges.

**Happy Holidays and Happy New Year!
Jenn Bluntach, DRE**

Childcare for littles is available for Sunday services and Christmas Eve through the holidays. RE classes start back up Sunday . . .





UUA Newsletter

Unitarian Universalist Association

December 2024

Beloveds,

As we enter into our holiday season once again, I am suffused with gratitude for all of the ways that UUs have been living their faith boldly in the past year –in your congregation’s ministries, in worship on Sundays, during our historic Climate Justice Revival last September, and in sharing our values with voters across the United States through UU the Vote. These and other faith practices form a counter-cultural resistance that is needed desperately in these times. My prayer is that all of us will reflect on what our faith asks of us in these days and respond accordingly in community.

As is our annual holiday tradition, I have recorded a video message with holiday greetings and good wishes for our congregations and communities. Please share it widely during worship or at other times in your community and beyond.



These are heartbreaking and uncertain times, and this moment needs us – people of faith who put love at the center, work boldly to widen the circle so that all might feel that expansive love that held us for so many generations, and do it all with a commitment to communal care.

As we gather for holiday celebrations with friends and family and our wider communities, may we carry with us a sense of love, communal care and connection. May we cherish moments of joy and pleasure among those we love, and may we continue to connect with those who struggle with isolation and loneliness during the holidays. May we reflect on our renewed commitments to justice and compassion in 2025 together.

Wherever you are and however you mark the coming holidays of Winter Solstice, Hanukkah, Christmas, Kwanzaa, New Year, and more, I send you my love and I send you good wishes from all of us at your Unitarian Universalist Association.

Be well, Beloveds.

Rev. Dr. Sofia Betancourt, UUA President

[Click here to see the entire message.](#)

December HALF PORTION FOR SOCIAL ACTION: The Alaska Innocence Project

The Alaska Innocence Project would like to thank the Anchorage Unitarian Universalist Fellowship for designating us once again as the December recipient of the Half Portion for Social Action. It means so much to AKIP to receive support from an organization as informed and engaged as the Fellowship. We cherish this honor, especially at the height

of the season of giving.

AKIP is the only nonprofit organization of its kind in Alaska and the last hope for those who have been wrongfully convicted and remain incarcerated. The costs of this work are quite high.

Investigators must find and interview witnesses who have spread all over the country. Experts must be retained to review and reanalyze evidence from the original case. Transcript costs, filing fees, and witness expenses all are incurred in bringing a case of wrongful conviction to court. These costs are covered by the donations received by AKIP. Every dollar received by AKIP helps bring a wrongfully convicted individual sitting in prison closer to going home.

I will be presenting in person at AUUF on an upcoming Sunday in December to update the Fellowship on our work, focusing on present and future issues given that the number of exonerations nationally is increasing exponentially year by year.

Swift changes in forensic science and DNA testing capabilities are allowing us to give previously reviewed cases another closer look. New and more complete methods of data collection & analysis are revealing new problem areas. New perspectives, corroborated by new technology, are revealing new avenues to discover innocence claims. Most importantly, Alaska needs to adopt changes in policy and practice to match these new trajectories.

I look forward to our discussion regarding these forward-looking issues, and the work that got us where we are. We could not look forward confidently without community support. Thank you again to the Fellowship for continuing to be a keystone for AKIP's important work.

Respectfully and gratefully yours,

Jory Knott
Executive Director
Alaska Innocence Project
jory@alaskainnocence.org
alaskainnocence.org

Go to anchorageuuf.org
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.



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Welcome

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6:00 – 7:00 pm Community Connection -
Private Room 8

Wednesday 1/1/24

New Year's Day

Thursday 1/2/24

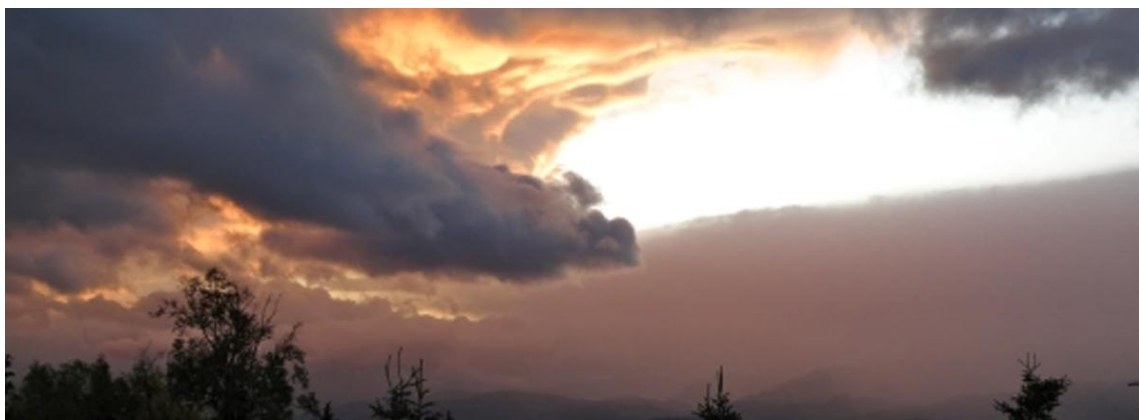
5:30 pm Anti-Racism Team Meeting
6:30 – 8:00 pm Choir Practice in the
Sanctuary with Esme



The Forum 9:00 AM Sunday Dec. 29, 2024
IN PERSON & on Zoom
Saving Our Community One Conversation at a Time
with Peg Tileston

The Forum In- Person at AUUF & on Zoom
9:00 am Sunday, Dec. 29, 2024

[Click here to join on Zoom.](#)
[Click here for Speaker's Bio.](#)



Sunday Worship Service 11:00 AM Sunday Dec. 29, 2024
IN PERSON & on Zoom
Staying Present with Uncertainty
with Cassie Thomas and Lauren Rench

Sunday Worship In- Person at AUUF & on Zoom
11:00 am Sunday, Dec. 29, 2024

[Click here to join on Zoom.](#)

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Thank you & Happy Holidays!



From Rev. Lise & AUUF Staff

Post Election Next Steps, Jan. 8, 6:30pm

About a dozen of us are continuing to meet to take steps to build positive community for our values, protect people and institutions in need, provide mutual support and whatever else we have the energy and time to do. It's going to be a crazy time come late January. It's not too late to join us with your ideas and energy. See you in the Sanctuary on Jan. 8. Please talk with Rev. Lise if you have questions.

It takes the whole village—our AUUF village! Happy Holidays!!

I hope you've been enjoying the season, however you may celebrate. I realize that for some of us, this may be a choice to not celebrate. I ran into a friend just the other day and discovered he has a strong aversion to Christmas. He doesn't like the forced cheer, the unrealistic expectations, the stress and busyness of trying to get everything just right. It's a challenging time of year for him, and many folks also have loved ones they're missing. My heart goes out to you if you're having difficulties right now. Please take care of yourself and enjoy each small moment you can, holiday related or not. And do reach out if you need some help.

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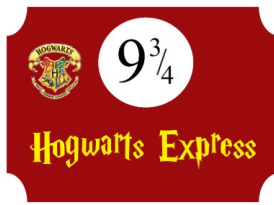
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This year, "The Wizardly World of Peace Camp", will take place June 9-13. Wizard themed but with a spin on UU Values. Will



you be in the Cabin of Gratitude? Justice? What potions can demonstrate transformation?

Every wizard needs a fine wand...crafting and creating what uniquely comes from your imagination will be celebrated!

Every wizard is sure to get thirsty. Maybe a class in butterbeer making is in order as a refreshment from casting spells all day...

Those broomstick rides (bike rides) will explore the trails of the land...

Oh, and the ideas that are sure to come from brainstorming together....Join us!

If you have previously helped plan Peace Camp, or are a newbie like me, please consider joining us on the following dates and times in the Library at AUUF.

Thursday, January 23 at 1pm

Thursday, February 20 at 1pm

Wednesday, March 26 at 1pm

Wednesday, April 23 at 1pm

More dates and times will be announced the closer we get to camp.

We are so fortunate to have Rosene Beachy join us and be a part of Peace Camp in 2025 as well! Thanks to Rosene and the hard working team, Peace Camp also has accreditation from the ACA (American Camp Association)! I look forward to learning from the best and beloved former AUUF DRE director on this camp planning journey.

Jenn Bluntach, DRE

Director of Religious Exploration



RE (Religious Exploration) in the NEW YEAR!

RE Classes start back up after winter break on January 5 for Pre-K and Grade School/MS Kids.

Our Soul Matters theme in January is Story..

January 5 - Stories and You: The practice of building your unique identity.

January 12 - Stories and Friendship: The practice of building meaningful connections.

January 19 - Stories and Social Change: The practice of building the future we hope for.

January 26 - Stories and Religion: The practice of building our UU identity

HS Youth will meet at 11am in Room 8 on Sunday, January 12 for a New Year Kick-Off of Minute to Win It Games and Indoor/Outdoor Scavenger Hunt

RE Holiday Parties & Games

The HS Youth (and teachers 😊) had a fun day of holiday games to wrap up 2024!

We didn't catch pictures of the other age groups yesterday- it was busy, a tad crazy 😊 and lots of fun!!! Scavenger hunt, pass the present, learning about Hanukkah, Christmas, and Kwanza happened in our other class. And...everyone had jelly donuts- a Hanukkah tradition!

Watch for 2025 RE details to be sent out before the end of the year. 🎉🎉🎉

RE classes start back up Sunday, January 5 with the exception of HS Youth. HS Youth will kick off the new year on Sunday, January 12 with an indoor/outdoor scavenger hunt followed by a series of minute to win it challenges.

**Happy Holidays and Happy New Year!
Jenn Bluntach, DRE**

Childcare for littles is available for Sunday services and Christmas Eve through the holidays. RE classes start back up Sunday . . .





December HALF PORTION FOR SOCIAL ACTION: The Alaska Innocence Project

The Alaska Innocence Project would like to thank the Anchorage Unitarian Universalist Fellowship for designating us once again as the December recipient of the Half Portion for Social Action. It means so much to AKIP to receive support from an organization as informed and engaged as the Fellowship. We cherish this honor, especially at the height of the season of giving.

AKIP is the only nonprofit organization of its kind in Alaska and the last hope for those who have been wrongfully convicted and remain incarcerated. The costs of this work are quite high.

Investigators must find and interview witnesses who have spread all over the country. Experts must be retained to review and reanalyze evidence from the original case. Transcript costs, filing fees, and witness expenses all are incurred in bringing a case of wrongful conviction to court. These costs are covered by the donations received by AKIP. Every dollar received by AKIP helps bring a wrongfully convicted individual sitting in prison closer to going home.

I will be presenting in person at AUUF on an upcoming Sunday in December to update the Fellowship on our work, focusing on present and future issues given that the number of exonerations nationally is increasing exponentially year by year.

Swift changes in forensic science and DNA testing capabilities are allowing us to give previously reviewed cases another closer look. New and more complete methods of data collection & analysis are revealing new problem areas. New perspectives, corroborated by new technology, are revealing new avenues to discover innocence claims. Most importantly, Alaska needs to adopt changes in policy and practice to match these new trajectories.

I look forward to our discussion regarding these forward-looking issues, and the work that got us where we are. We could not look forward confidently without community support. Thank you again to the Fellowship for continuing to be a keystone for AKIP's important work.

Respectfully and gratefully yours,

Jory Knott
Executive Director
Alaska Innocence Project
jory@alaskainnocence.org
alaskainnocence.org

Go to anchorageuuf.org
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.



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Office Hours Usually Mon-Thu 11am - 3 pm, Please call first.

Jennifer Bluntach (she/her), Director of Religious Exploration

DRE@anchorageuuf.org

Office hours usually are:

Sunday 9am-11am, Tuesday 11am-3pm, Thursday, 11am-3pm, and by appointment

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Kelly's remote office hours Mon-Fri 9 am -1 pm

Esme Danner (she/her) Music Director

907-248-3737 x4, Music@anchorageuuf.org

Dan Norton: AV Coordinator

907-248-3737 x5, AVCoordinator@anchorageuuf.org

Contact the Connections Team for more information on how to get involved.

Connections@anchorageuuf.org

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