



ANCHORAGE
UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST
FELLOWSHIP
diverse beliefs,
common purpose.

Today At Your Fellowship

Thursday, January 5, 2023

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

Thursday 1/5/23

Friday 1/6/23

12 pm Freethinkers on Zoom

Saturday 1/7/23

8:30 am AA Slap Happy Group

Sunday 1/8/23

9 am Virtual Forum on Zoom

11 am Sunday Worship

Live at AUUF & on Zoom

12:30 am Social Action Council

12:30 am The Alliance

2 pm Private event

2:30 pm Worship Associate meeting

4 pm Anchorage Friends Meeting

Monday 1/9/23

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

Tuesday 1/10/23

2 pm Hungry Book Club

4 pm Finance Committee Meeting

Wednesday 1/11/23

6 pm Safer Congregation Team

6:30 pm Connections Team Fireside
chat

Half Portion Recipient for January is
[Refugee Assistance & Immigration
Services](#)



Virtual Forum on Zoom ONLY

9 am Sunday January, 8

Stories Should Lead to Action

Executive Director, Keys to Life, Shirley Mae Springer Staten

Virtual Forum

9 am Sunday, January 8, 2023

Stories Should Lead to Action

Executive Director, Keys to Life, Shirley Mae Springer Staten

Shirley Mae Springer Staten is the executive director of Keys to Life, a nonprofit corporation dedicated to empowering, creating, and strengthening an inclusive community through rich arts and cross-cultural experiences. She has worked as a VISTA volunteer, traveled to Cuba and Africa, served as Cultural Events Project Coordinator for the United Nations/NGO Women's Conference in Beijing, and worked in various positions for the Alaska Humanities Forum, Alaska Native Heritage Center, Anchorage School District, Home Base After School Program, and others. Shirley Mae earned her Master's Degree in Applied Psychology from University of Santa Monica in 1996, after receiving her bachelor's in Human Resource Development from Alaska Pacific University. She has received numerous recognitions, including Athena Society membership, YWCA's Women of Achievement Award, Mayor's Arts awards, the Honor Kempton award and legislative citations for advancing the causes of humanity, Alaska Black Caucus Community Service Award, and Interior Alaska Ecumenical Peace with Justice Council Peacemakers Award.

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

Sunday Worship Live at AUUF & on Zoom

11 am Sunday, January 8

More info coming soon to the AUUF homepage & Facebook.

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

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 on January 22, 29, and February 5. 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 make lots of new friends along the way.

Email connections@anchorageuuf.org for questions or to sign up! We are deep in planning and need to have commitments of people signed up to be sure we have enough facilitators to lead the class. This class likely won't be offered again until Fall so sign up now if you can! ALSO, we'll be serving lunch as the class starts right after the Sunday service and we need to know how much food to provide. We hope to see you there!!

Freethinkers

12 pm Fridays

Freethinkers, a humanist discussion group, is working its way through "The Righteous Mind, Why Good People are Divided by Politics and Religion." Please join the discussion whether you've read the book or not! The Freethinkers group selects a chapter or two each week for a weekly reading assignment -- just so the author's premise and ideas are clearly in the minds of most who have read it -- then the group discussion tends to revolve around the author's thoughts, once they are verbally presented by the moderator. The group then begins a discussion of the ideas presented by the book, but not necessarily the book itself. So you are invited to join the zoom meeting (click on the calendar icon on the AUUF web page) and engage in discussing the ideas (or simply listening) between 12:00 noon and 1:30 every Friday. Visitors welcome! You will encounter a friendly, positive, and possibly cringingly humorous group discussion.

[Click here to read more.](#)

Fireside Chat on Zoom only on January 11

Staying Connected - Fireside Chat (Zoom only)

Wed. Jan. 11, 6:30-8:00 pm

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

For more information, email connections@anchorageuuf.org

Anti-Racism Team

White Supremacy Culture Discussion Series
AnchorageUUF & UUFFairbanks
January-March 2023

AUUF and UUFF together are offering an opportunity for exploration in a five-part discussion series facilitated by Student Minister Becca Bernard. These will be a zoom-only series.

When: Thursday evenings, 6:30-8:00 pm: on zoom.
January 12, January 26, February 9, February 23, and March 9.

There will be short, engaging reading assignments before each session, so if you might like to participate, please RSVP to Becca at rbernard.ak@gmail.com.

Many antiracism activists and scholars have adopted the term "white supremacy culture" to refer to the dominant American culture in a way that highlights its systemic racism. What is meant by "white supremacy culture" and how does it differ from white supremacists as individuals? What are the characteristics of white supremacy culture?

Are there ways to change how we participate in white supremacy culture to avoid perpetuating it? Exploring these and other questions about white supremacy culture can help us deepen our individual and institutional understandings of, and commitment to, the work of dismantling racism.

I Have a Dream – Solidarity Weekend Celebration
January 16, 2023
Bettye Davis East Anchorage High School

Join us (Alaska Black Caucus) at Bettye Davis East Anchorage High School for a free celebration of cultural performances, choirs, and more to promote diversity, unity, inclusiveness, love and equity as we work to build our Beloved Community in memory of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

This program is made possible by the support of Wells Fargo and the Alaska Community Foundation.

Alaska Black Caucus Community Conversation: Race in Alaska

Date - 01/08/2023

7:00 pm - 8:00 pm

Join the Alaska Black Caucus to kick off the 2023 Community Conversation series.

[Register now here.](#)



Free MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY
"I HAVE A DREAM" Solidarity
CULTURAL CELEBRATION

Recital MLK "I Have A Dream"
Jeremiah Gay Savage, 13 years old
STrEaM Academy

Sankofa Dance Theatre

Anchorage Korean Ensemble

The West High Concert Choir

Korean Drum and Fan Dance



Ciuliat Tradition Drummers and Dancers

Anaya Latin Dance

Polynesian Youth Choir

Korean Martial Arts Master Yu at Champ
Martial Arts...

JAN 16, 2023, 6:30 PM
Bettye Davis East Anchorage High School
4025 East Northern Lights



MLK, Jr.
1929 - 1968
THEALASKABLACKCAUCUS.COM

Music Director Position Available

Ideally, we would like to find a Music Director, and we are also willing to split this position into two--a piano accompanist and choir director.

Please send a cover letter, resume and pay requirements to
revlise@anchorageuuf.org

Thank you! Rev. Lise Adams Sherry

Anchorage Unitarian Universalist Fellowship Position Description

Title: Music Director

Fair Labor Standards Act Status: Non-Exempt Position

Hours Required: Part time (about 11 hrs/wk Sept-May; 7 hrs/wk June-August)

Organizational Relationship: Employed by Board of Directors, under the supervision of

the Minister

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

[Click here to read the entire article.](#)



OWL classes start in January!

You can read more about the Our Whole Lives, Sexuality Education Program offered at AUUF on [our website here](#).

If you have not already joined the list, please sign up there or email DrRay@AnchorageUUF.org.



Sign up for Small Groups Online or In-Person!

(In-person facilitators needed!)

Being part of a group is an opportunity to build connections, to listen, and to be heard by others.

Members covenant to support and be present together for a period of time and this can be a great way to build community, engage meaningfully with each other and enrich the AUUF experience.

Groups may be informal or structured and are generally made up of 5-12 people. Some groups may meet in person, at the fellowship, in people's homes, in nature, or out in the community working on service projects. Groups decide together how their connection will look, and within the facilitator's availability, where, when, and how often to meet. Generally, most groups meet for one to two hours, every week, every other week or monthly, depending on what the group decides.

We currently have two groups scheduled:

Online: Thursdays 7-8:30p, starting Jan 5th - Run in collaboration with UU Fellowship of Fairbanks. This group is open! Facilitators will reach out soon to those who have already registered. This is a great chance to connect with UU's around Alaska!

In-person: Thursday evenings, every other week - on a break over the holidays and beginning again Jan 5th. This in-person group is full. With another volunteer facilitator, we would love to start another!

Next In-Person Group: Coming soon? We would like to offer another in-person group, but need a facilitator! Could this be you? Choose a time and place that works for you! What type of group could you imagine yourself leading? If you are interested in leading an in-person group, whether it is discussion-based, service-based, nature/experiential, please get in touch!

Whether you are looking to participate in or lead a group, sign up and share your ideas about what a good and engaging connection group looks like for you! Let us know your availability and interests! New members may join throughout the year as space allows, so long as we have enough leaders and members to get started! Sign up using this link to be a part of [Small Groups](#).

For questions, contact DrRay@AnchorageUUF.org.

Path to a New Logo for AUUF

Cultural appreciation is when we seek to understand and learn about another culture in order to broaden our perspective and connect with others cross-culturally. Cultural appropriation on the other hand is taking aspects of another culture that are not our own and using them for our own purposes. AUUF's logo, with its Tlingit-inspired markings, was designed decades ago, probably in an effort to indicate a connection to Alaska. It was adopted at a time when the issue of cultural appropriation received little or no attention. With our newly enlightened awareness and the UU principle of respect and dignity of every person in mind, a Logo Task Force is forming. The group includes graphic designers, communications personnel, and other interested people in our Fellowship. At the May, 2022 annual meeting, AUUF voted to come up with another logo. It's time for a new design.

Our logo can visually express who we are, and what the AUUF community is. This is why the process of creating and adopting a new logo should involve us all. The Logo Task Force welcomes your ideas and will offer opportunities to ask questions, share ideas, and be involved. We'll begin work in January and hope to finalize a voted-upon logo by Spring.

If you have something to contribute to our effort, contact Denise Martin at 1-907-317-6134 or dulcimer.diva@gmail.com.

Draft of May 2, 2022, AUUF Annual Meeting Available

The draft of our 2022 annual meeting is ready and is available for viewing on our website in the What's Happening / Annual Meeting 2022 page. Please refer any suggestions or corrections to James Dryden at 907-344-4995 or dryden@alaska.net

The January Half Portion offering goes to Refugee Assistance & Immigration Services

Refugee Assistance & Immigration Services (RAIS) provides a bridge for refugees (individuals who have had to flee their countries of origin due to the tragedies of persecution and war) from their former life experiences to the new skills required for success in the United States. Through a focus on economic self-sufficiency, community integration, and a respect for unique cultures, history and traditions, RAIS creates an environment of compassion and encouragement for refugees to flourish.

**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 Tues, Th & Fri 10 am - 2 pm

**Shellie Gooden, (she/ her) Congregational Administrator, 907-248-3737
x1 Admin@anchorageUUF.org AUUF**

Office hours are usually Mon-Thurs, 10 am - 2 pm

Please call before coming.

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

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

**Dr. Ray Macfarlane, (they/none) Director of Lifespan Learning
& Exploration, DrRay@AnchorageUUF.org**

Office hours are usually Tues/Thurs 10 am - 2 pm, remote Wed 10 am - 2 pm Please confirm for appointments.

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

Connections@AnchorageUUF.org



Visit our website

AUUF Podcast

Donate



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UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST
FELLOWSHIP
*diverse beliefs,
common purpose.*

Today At Your Fellowship

Thursday, January 12, 2023

This Weekend @ AUUF

Find Zoom [links here.](#)

Thursday 1/12/23

5:30 pm Board Agenda Setting Meeting

Friday 1/13/23

12 pm Freethinkers on Zoom

Saturday 1/14/23

8:30 am AA Slap Happy Group

10:30 am Private Rental

Sunday 1/15/23

9 am Virtual Forum on Zoom

11 am Sunday Worship

Live at AUUF & on Zoom

4 pm Anchorage Friends Meeting

Monday 1/16/23

Martin Luther King Day - Offices closed,
staff holiday

10:30 am Nominating Committee

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

Tuesday 1/17/23

1:30 pm Stewardship Meeting on Zoom

5:30 pm Jerry's Group private rental

6 pm Community Connection private
rental

Wednesday 1/18/23

6:30 pm Board of Directors Meeting

Half Portion Recipient for January is
[Refugee Assistance & Immigration
Services](#)



Virtual Forum only on Zoom. 9 am Sunday January 15, 2023

Can We Keep a Grocery Chain Merger from Hurting Alaskans?

Alaska State Rep. Zack Fields and AkPirg Consumer Advocate Graham Downey

Virtual Forum

9 am Sunday, January 15, 2023

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

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

January at the Forum

Happy 2023! We kicked off the New Year on January 8 with the irrepressible and inspirational **Shirley Mae Springer Staten**, head of the nonprofit **Keys to Life** which is known for the Lullaby Project and other work with incarcerated people and folks returning from prison to their communities. If you missed her presentation, ***"Stories Should Lead to Action,"*** entirely—or the last part of it when some of you lost connection because of the GCI internet and phone outage—you can listen to a recording of this Forum, along with other Forum podcasts (thank you, Ken Winterberger) by going to the blue box in the left column of the AUUF Home Page under "Stay Up to Date," or directly to the [podcast page here](#).

On Sunday, **January 15**, we will hear about the **proposed merger between grocery chain giants Kroger and Albertsons**—or as we know them better by their local store names, Fred Meyer and Carrs. **How can we keep it from hurting Alaskans?** Our speakers will be Alaska **State Rep. Zack Fields**, and Alaska Public Interest Research Group's Consumer Advocate **Graham Downey**. Rep. Fields, together with Rep. Ivy Sponholz, wrote a letter to Federal Trade Commission Chair Lina Khan asking her to block the merger. Before joining AkPirg, Downey took a class in antitrust law at Yale Law School from FTC Chair Khan.

On Sunday, **January 22**, our speaker will be **Chris Kolerok, Director of Public Policy and Government Affairs at Cook Inlet Housing Authority**. There is a lot of talk about homelessness. CIHA and Koleruk are walking the talk, and Chris will share what they know about **"Success and Challenges in Housing Anchorage Families."**

On the final Sunday of the month, **January 29**, there will be no separate Forum and Worship Service, but instead will come together in an all-Fellowship gathering at **10:00 a.m. to hear from Rev. Lise Adams Sherry**. As we start the process of adopting a budget for the coming fiscal year, she will help us understand the needs of the Fellowship and how essential it is that we, as a community, provide the financial support necessary to meet those needs and keep AUUF afloat and thriving.

Speakers' bios and photos can be accessed from the AUUF Home Page (www.anchorageuuf.org) under Sunday Services or in the butterscotch-colored box in the left-hand column, "Sunday @ Zoom."

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, and Lynn Hallquist, and Rev. Lise Adams Sherry.

Sunday Worship Live at AUUF & on Zoom

11 am Sunday, January 15

Whose Voices Do We Center?

Rev. Lise Adams Sherry, Marty Freeman

What does it mean to center someone's voice, experience or culture? How do we decide who gets to be at the center and who doesn't? MLK, Jr. worked to bring black voices in from the margins by encouraging equity for all. How is this working? How can we create a greater sense of spaciousness so folks don't think of the center as a sum-zero equation?

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

Worship Services in January

The theme for January is Finding Our Center. Hmmm . . . did we even know it was lost?! I think that's one of the challenges though, we often get so busy with day-to-day tasks and our responsibilities to others that we don't even realize we've lost sight of what's truly important to us. And if we aren't living authentic lives, how does that affect the rest of our world? How can we reconnect to that ethical and joyful essence of ourselves that benefits us all?

So far this month we've had a Burning Bowl Ceremony (Jan. 1) where we intentionally decided what to leave behind and what to work for in the coming year. We've also pondered the possibility that life is much better when we pay attention to what truly feeds our soul (Jan. 8). (I started ballet lessons again by the way! Have you started doing something that brings you joy?) Below are other ways we'll examine ways to find our center and come home again.

Jan. 22, 2023 11 am In person & Online

Lunar New Year

Rev. Lise Adams Sherry, Renée Frost

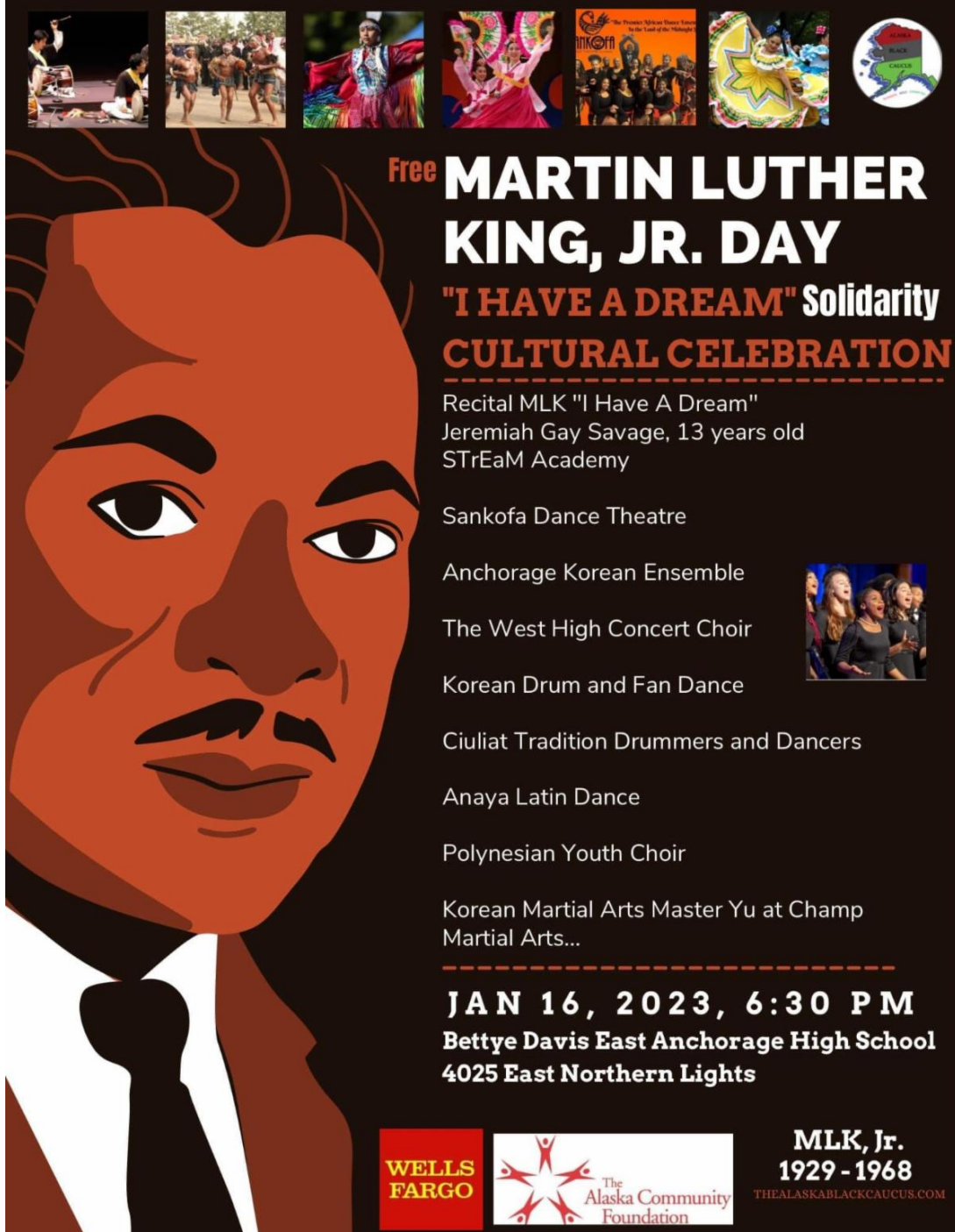
Many Asian cultures celebrate the Lunar New Year, a time of ritual and celebration where one honors one's ancestors prepares for the new year by cleaning and meditation and performs certain behaviors for good fortune in the coming year. How do ritual acts help us to find our center? What can we learn from the Lunar New Year?

Jan. 29, 2023 **10 am** In person & Online

We're Better Together!

Rev. Lise Adams Sherry, Barb Clark

It's that time of year when we talk about what we hope to realize in the next year and how much we can jointly give for our hopes and dreams. One thing we know, we're better together! Many hands make light work and can accomplish more fiscally when we all contribute to the best of our ability. Join us as we plan together for the coming year.



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"I HAVE A DREAM" Solidarity
CULTURAL CELEBRATION

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 Jeremiah Gay Savage, 13 years old
 STreAM Academy

Sankofa Dance Theatre

Anchorage Korean Ensemble

The West High Concert Choir

Korean Drum and Fan Dance

Ciuliat Tradition Drummers and Dancers

Anaya Latin Dance

Polynesian Youth Choir

Korean Martial Arts Master Yu at Champ
 Martial Arts...

JAN 16, 2023, 6:30 PM
Bettye Davis East Anchorage High School
4025 East Northern Lights

WELLS FARGO

The Alaska Community Foundation

MLK, Jr.
1929 - 1968
THEALASKABLACKCAUCUS.COM

Anti-Racism Team

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This program is made possible by the support of Wells Fargo and the Alaska Community Foundation.

You are Invited - Circling Back: The Legacy of Gary Holthaus

The Alaska Humanities Forum invites the public to “Circling Back: The Legacy of Gary Holthaus” a program to be held Thursday, January 19 at 7:00 pm at the Anchorage Museum auditorium.

Holthaus became the Founding Director of the Alaska Humanities Forum in 1972 and his twenty-year tenure created opportunities for public humanities projects all over the state.

The evening gathering will also honor Holthaus’s literary achievements as a poet and essayist, his active engagement with Alaska Native education and land claims, and his passionate concern for the environment.

The event is sponsored by the Alaska Humanities Forum, Alaska Quarterly Review, and the Anchorage Museum. For more information, contact Nancy Hemsath at nhemsath@akhf.org.

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Freethinkers

12 pm Fridays

Freethinkers, a group of UUs, use selected books as the basis for Friday discussions

at noon by zoom. (Find the AUUF web page & click on the calendar icon for access.) Visitors are welcome to take part in the rather freewheeling discussions, whether or not you've read the current book. Books only help spark the discussions, but comments can quickly go off the rails, sometimes on rather remarkable tangents of interest (where no man has gone before?). The group is currently reading *The Righteous Mind, Why Good People Are Divided by Politics and Religion*, by Jonathon Haidt. Last Friday's discussion, 1/06/23, began with chapter 10, *The Hive Switch*. The author presents the rather compelling argument that human beings are conditional hive creatures. We can transcend self-interest under the right circumstances and immerse ourselves in something larger than ourselves. Mr. Haidt calls it *The Hive Switch*, which pushes us to make groups more cohesive and therefore more successful in competing with other groups. It helps explain our gatherings into political and religious clusters, as well as describe other cultural events such as anonymous group dancing at rave events by the young.

Please join us!

[Click here to read the entire article.](#)

Zoom Audio Issues

AUUF's worship team has heard that, for some Zoom attendees, the volume of music being played from videos during our 11 AM Sunday services can be very loud. This is a result of our need to turn up the volume so that the music is audible over the sanctuary speakers, and apparently there's no way to broadcast at a lower volume over Zoom. The best solution is for Zoomers to remember to turn their device's volume down low as they join. Thanks for understanding the limits of our AV technology during hybrid services."

Cassie Thomas, worship associate

Reality Hits!

By Marie Lundstrom
Stewardship Committee

Did you know that it costs \$204 a day to keep our building operating? That's for lights, heat, phones, internet, water, sewage, trash, and cleaning. And 2/3 of our budget goes for staff costs. Inflation is roughly 7.7% in Alaska and the U.S. as a whole. We live through numbers!

This is the season of facing stark truths about what it takes to make possible our community of friendships, learning, and growth. We on the Stewardship Committee are parsing those numbers, revising letters, and simplifying the pledge form to get ready for our yearly pledge campaign starting January 29 and ending February 28. Your pledges are what make up more than 3/4 of AUUF's budgeted income—the rest comes from fundraisers, rent, and other sources. You are AUUF by any measure we use!

Board Treasurer Sid McCausland has some words to say about what we face to keep going and what resources we need. Sid's video was aired at Sunday's worship service and is [available here](#).

Get ready to hear more about how important your pledge is to AUUF!

Music Director Position Available

Ideally, we would like to find a Music Director, and we are also willing to split this position into two—a piano accompanist and choir director.

Please send a cover letter, resume and pay requirements to
revlise@anchorageuuf.org

Thank you! Rev. Lise Adams Sherry

Anchorage Unitarian Universalist Fellowship Position Description

Title: Music Director

Fair Labor Standards Act Status: Non-Exempt Position

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[Click here to read the entire article.](#)



Guest at Your Table Collection Jan 15th!

As we celebrate Martin Luther King Day on January 15th, please bring in your Guest at Your Table boxes and the contributions we've made to support leaders who are challenging oppressive and inequitable systems in their own communities and in our world.

As the winter holidays have ended, we have put aside some amount in our little cardboard boxes, to support the partners identified by our UU Service Committee as forces for Hope, Courage and Action. Learn more about their stories on the [UUSC website](#). As these boxes have been guests at our tables, and as we are all guests on this pale blue dot together, let's remember to lend our support, amplify voices, and make bold change in our own communities.

Boxes can be brought to service for a group donation to contribute together, donated online at AnchorageUUF.org with a note for GAYT, or donated [directly to UUSC](#). Thank you for making Guest at Your Table part of your tradition!

OWL registration is open!

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



Jr High 7-9th Grade -

Registration due by Jan 21st

Parent/Guardian Orientation: Jan 22nd

Classes: Jan 29th through Apr 26th

Sundays 12:30-3p

Elementary K-2nd Grade

Registration due by Jan 31st

Parent/Guardian Orientation: Mar 5th

Classes: Mar 26th through Apr 26th

Sundays 12:30-1:30p & Wednesdays 6-7p

Learn more about AUUF OWL [here](#) on our website, click [here](#) for more information

about OWL from UUA.

Click here to [register](#) & join us at AUUF.

- Children & Youth, Learning & Exploration



AUUF Children & Youth Need Your Help!

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

Especially Needed:

- Teachers - Planning and teaching class twice a month, especially for 5-13 y/o's
- Helpers - Sunday Mornings, special events, once a month
- Youth Advisors - Be available for evening/weekend activities, bi-monthly
- Snack Master - Plan and organize snacks for Sunday mornings
- Multi-Gen and Cross-Age Volunteers - Have a fun project you want to do downstairs or all together? Let us know!

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

Children & Youth, Learning & Exploration

The January Half Portion offering goes to Refugee Assistance & Immigration Services

Refugee Assistance & Immigration Services (RAIS) provides a bridge for refugees (individuals who have had to flee their countries of origin due to the tragedies of persecution and war) from their former life experiences to the new skills required for success in the United States. Through a focus on economic self-sufficiency, community integration, and a respect for unique cultures, history and traditions, RAIS creates an environment of compassion and encouragement for refugees to flourish.

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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

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[Visit our website](#)

[AUUF Podcast](#)

[Donate](#)



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

Today At Your Fellowship

Thursday, January 19, 2023

This Weekend @ AUUF

Find Zoom [links here.](#)

Thursday 1/19/23

5:30 pm Anti-Racism Team on Zoom
7 pm Legacy of Gary Holthaus at
Anchorage Museum

Friday 1/20/23

12 pm Freethinkers on Zoom
7 pm AUUF Logo Task Force

Saturday 1/21/23

8:30 am AA Slap Happy Group
10:30 am Private Rental
5:30 pm Auction Paint Nite
7 pm Private Rental

Sunday 1/22/23

9 am Virtual Forum on Zoom

11 am Sunday Worship Live at AUUF &
on Zoom

12:30 pm Finding your Way to
Fellowship

4 pm Anchorage Friends Meeting

Monday 1/23/23

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

Tuesday 1/24/23

1:30 pm Stewardship Meeting on Zoom
5:30 pm Jerry's Group private rental
6 pm Community Connection private
rental

Wednesday 1/25/23

Half Portion Recipient for January is
[Refugee Assistance & Immigration
Services](#)



Virtual Forum 9 am Jan 22, 23 on Zoom only
Success and Challenges in Housing Anchorage Families
Chris Kolerok, Director of Public Policy and Governmental Affairs
Cook Inlet Housing Authority

Virtual Forum

9 am Sunday, January 22, 2023

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

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

January at the Forum

On Sunday, **January 22**, our speaker will be **Chris Kolerok, Director of Public Policy and Government Affairs at Cook Inlet Housing Authority**. There is a lot of talk about homelessness. CIHA and Kolerok are walking the talk, and Chris will share what they know about **“Success and Challenges in Housing Anchorage Families.”**

On the final Sunday of the month, **January 29, there will be no separate Forum and Worship Service, but instead will come together in an all-Fellowship gathering at 10:00 a.m. to hear from Rev. Lise Adams Sherry**. As we start the process of adopting a budget for the coming fiscal year, she will help us understand the needs of the Fellowship and how essential it is that we, as a community, provide the financial support necessary to meet those needs and keep AUUF afloat and thriving.

Speakers' bios and photos can be accessed from the [AUUF Home Page](#) under Sunday Services or in the butterscotch-colored box in the left-hand column, “Sunday @ Zoom.”

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, and Lynn Hallquist, and Rev. Lise Adams Sherry.



*Sunday Worship 11 am Jan 22, 23 Live at AUUF & on Zoom
Lunar New Year
Rev. Lise Adams Sherry, Renée Frost*

Sunday Worship Live at AUUF & on Zoom

11 am Sunday, January 22

Many Asian cultures celebrate the Lunar New Year, a time of ritual and celebration where one honors one's ancestors prepares for the new year by cleaning and meditation and performs certain behaviors for good fortune in the coming year. How do ritual acts help us to find our center? What can we learn from the Lunar New Year?

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

Next Worship Services in January

Jan. 29, 2023, **10 am- Please note the time change.**

In-person & Online

We're Better Together!

Rev. Lise Adams Sherry, Barb Clark

It's that time of year when we talk about what we hope to realize in the next year and how much we can jointly give for our hopes and dreams. One thing we know, we're better together! Many hands make light work and can accomplish more fiscally when we all contribute to the best of our ability. Join us as we plan together for the coming year.



The Challenge: Our Mystery Challenger (who wishes to remain anonymous for the time being) offered to match long-term construction loan principal prepayment donations dollar-for-dollar through December 31, 2022.

The challenge was presented to the Fellowship via the August 18th TAYF as an opportunity to eliminate the balloon payment due in July 2033. Each subsequent TAYF carried a call for donations with the final call during the last week of December.

The Loan: A generous benefactor provided AUUF with a \$220,000 loan on July 1, 2017, that allowed our Fellowship to accelerate the renovations to our building. The loan came with very favorable terms and a payment schedule amortized over 30 years but it mandates a balloon payment of the outstanding balance in July 2033.

The Response: Forty-one AUUF families and individuals donated a total of \$43,315 gross, \$43,130 net.

The Prepayment: Our Mystery Challenger has instructed their financial advisor to augment the seed money for the grant with an amount sufficient to complete the dollar-for-dollar match.

AUUF will pre-pay \$86,260 in mid-February which will eliminate the balloon payment and reduce the total cost of the loan by 40%.

Thank you, Donors.

(Your thank you acknowledgment headed to the post office today.)

You are Invited - Circling Back: The Legacy of Gary Holthaus

The Alaska Humanities Forum invites the public to “Circling Back: The Legacy of Gary Holthaus” a program to be held Thursday, January 19 at 7:00 pm at the Anchorage Museum auditorium.

Holthaus became the Founding Director of the Alaska Humanities Forum in 1972 and his twenty-year tenure created opportunities for public humanities projects all over the state.

The evening gathering will also honor Holthaus’s literary achievements as a poet and essayist, his active engagement with Alaska Native education and land claims, and his passionate concern for the environment.

The event is sponsored by the Alaska Humanities Forum, Alaska Quarterly Review, and the Anchorage Museum. For more information, contact Nancy Hemsath at nhemsath@akhf.org.

Freethinkers

12 pm Fridays

Freethinker’s, a book group that meets every Friday at noon, by zoom, is a mostly a humanist group of UUs who do two things: they essentially reject nearly all mainstream religious orthodoxy (but don’t usually dwell on it), and they invite you to join them to read and discuss interesting books. Yes, it’s a book group, usually reading nonfiction tomes about current topics of significance. BUT, no need to read the book (!) if you’re interested in just having a great discussion about concepts relevant to today. Be prepared to either join in, or just listen if you like, to rather freewheeling discussions of all things that may or may not even be remotely related to the book. We easily distract ourselves with conversational tangents. A good time – but be warned, the sense of humor is often over the top. Dip your toe into the freethinker’s water – show up and you’ll enjoy the swim.

The book we’re currently reading is *The Righteous Mind, Why Good People Are Divided by Politics and Religion*, by Jonathan Haidt. (Go to the AUUF web page, scroll

down and click on the calendar icon for zoom access). Go ahead and tune in; I dare ya.

Wray

[Click here to read the entire article.](#)

What To Expect January 29

*By Marie Lundstrom
Stewardship Committee*

Ten days away is Sunday, January 29. On that day, we will have a joint service of the Forum and 11 am Worship Service in order to kick off our Stewardship Campaign/Pledge Drive through the month of February. We want to fire up everyone to help support this Fellowship we value. It's time for all of us to show up, to walk the talk, to be counted on, to do our part! There will be pledge forms you can fill out on the spot, graphs to show what your pledge is used for, a progress chart for keeping track of our success toward our goal, people talking about what AUUF means to them, and encouragement toward increasing your pledge.

**STRONGER
TOGETHER**



Because We Love Our Neighbors

At home that same day, you will get two emails from AUUF. One is a pledge letter with a Big Ask: Your commitment to pledge a regular amount toward support of AUUF for the Fiscal Year 2024 (July 1, 2023-June 30, 2024). A pledge form will be attached or linked to that letter. The other email you may use for tax purposes to show the IRS what you have donated to AUUF for the calendar year 2022. That letter will also show what you are currently pledging to AUUF.

Throughout February, members will speak in person or on video about pledging. Long-time UU Barb Clark spoke on video about what matters to her at AUUF and what we need to do to keep our Fellowship financially healthy and able to grow. That video was aired Sunday at both services [is available here](#). You will be hearing more about pledging and what you need to do to support AUUF.

Anti-Racism Team Corner

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

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Feb. 18, 2023, 10 AM to 5 PM.
[Register here.](#)

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

Safer Congregation Team – Guidebook Snippet

By David O'Brien, Team Co-Chair

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

SCT Mission Statement

Every person has inherent worth and dignity. That includes the right to bodily or mental integrity and sexual privacy. Children have the right to grow and develop without fear or exploitation. The Fellowship must keep its participants safe in order to have a spiritual Fellowship where people feel welcome. Protecting the safety of participants in our Fellowship is a high priority for the organization.

[Click here to read the entire article.](#)

Music Director Position Available

Ideally, we would like to find a Music Director, and we are also willing to split this position into two--a piano accompanist and choir director.

Please send a cover letter, resume and pay requirements to
[**revlise@anchorageuuf.org**](mailto:revlise@anchorageuuf.org)

Thank you! Rev. Lise Adams Sherry

Anchorage Unitarian Universalist Fellowship Position Description

Title: Music Director

Fair Labor Standards Act Status: Non-Exempt Position

Hours Required: Part time (about 11 hrs/wk Sept-May; 7 hrs/wk June-August)

Organizational Relationship: Employed by Board of Directors, under the supervision of the Minister

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

[Click here to read the entire article.](#)

OWL registration is open!

Thank you so much to our OWL Teachers!

AUUF is once again providing a precious service to the community by offering the age-graded, sexuality education program, Our Whole Lives.



Jr High 7-9th Grade -

Registration due by Jan 21st

Parent/Guardian Orientation: Jan 22nd

Classes: Jan 29th through Apr 26th

Sundays 12:30-3p

Elementary K-2nd Grade

Registration due by Jan 31st

Parent/Guardian Orientation: Mar 5th

Classes: Mar 26th through Apr 26th

Sundays 12:30-1:30p & Wednesdays 6-7p

Learn more about AUUF OWL [here](#) on our website, click [here](#) for more information about OWL from UUA.

Click here to [register](#) & join us at AUUF.

- Children & Youth, Learning & Exploration



AUUF Children & Youth Need Your Help!

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

Especially Needed:

- Teachers - Planning and teaching class twice a month, especially for 5-13 y/o's
- Helpers - Sunday Mornings, special events, once a month
- Youth Advisors - Be available for evening/weekend activities, bi-monthly
- Snack Master - Plan and organize snacks for Sunday mornings
- Multi-Gen and Cross-Age Volunteers - Have a fun project you want to do downstairs or all together? Let us know!

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

Children & Youth, Learning & Exploration

Planned Parenthood Event

Planned Parenthood has an event scheduled for the 50th anniversary of Roe v. Wade on January 22. Here's the info if you are interested:

On the 50th anniversary of Roe v Wade, we will come together to make valentine's cards for our state elected officials letting them know how the loss of the federal legal right to access an abortion has affected us and urging them to pass proactive legislation expanding birth control and other reproductive care in Alaska. Materials to make cards and snacks will be provided! The valentines will be hand-delivered on valentines day to the capital.

PPAA AK Anchorage: [Roe Anniversary Event click here for more info.](#)

The January Half Portion offering goes to Refugee Assistance & Immigration Services

Refugee Assistance & Immigration Services (RAIS) provides a bridge for refugees (individuals who have had to flee their countries of origin due to the tragedies of persecution and war) from their former life experiences to the new skills required for success in the United States. Through a focus on economic self-sufficiency, community integration, and a respect for unique cultures, history and traditions, RAIS creates an environment of compassion and encouragement for refugees to flourish.

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

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We strive to listen deeply and speak with one another and to our larger community with consideration and respect.

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Connect with us



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diverse beliefs,
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Today At Your Fellowship

Thursday, January 26, 2023

This Weekend @ AUUF

Find Zoom [links here.](#)

Thursday 1/26/23

Friday 1/27/23

12 pm Freethinkers on Zoom

Saturday 1/28/23

8:30 am AA Slap Happy Group

10:30 am, 1:00 pm & 6:00 pm

Private Rentals

Sunday 1/29/23

10 am Better Together!

Combined service of The Forum &
Sunday Worship

12:30 pm Finding your Way to
Fellowship

12:30 pm Jr High 7-9 OWL

Parent/Youth Kick-Off

4 pm Anchorage Friends Meeting

Monday 1/30/23

4:30 pm Private Rental

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

Tuesday 1/31/23

1:30 pm Stewardship Meeting on Zoom

5:30 pm Jerry's Group private rental

6 pm Community Connection private
rental

Wednesday 2/1/23

Half Portion Recipient for January is
[Refugee Assistance & Immigration
Services](#)



We're Better Together!
At AUUF & on Zoom
10 am Jan 29, 2023
Rev. Lise Adams Sherry, Barb Clark
Combined service of the Forum & Worship.

Better Together!

10 am Sunday, January 29 Live at AUUF & on Zoom

Rev. Lise Adams Sherry, Barb Clark

It's that time of year when we talk about what we hope to realize in the next year and how much we can jointly give for our hopes and dreams. One thing we know, we're better together! Many hands make light work and can accomplish more fiscally when we all contribute to the best of our ability. Join us as we plan together for the coming year.

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

**STRONGER
TOGETHER**



Because We Love Our Neighbors

Push Is Coming to Shove!

By Marie Lundstrom
Stewardship Committee

It's crunch time! Now is the time to take a solid look at AUUF and ask yourself, "What do I love most about the Fellowship?"

Your answer might be RE or the Forum or Freethinkers or small groups or the Worship Service or friendships or sense of community or

Whatever that answer may lead to the next question to ask yourself: How much am I willing to pay to have it? That's what stewardship—pledging—is all about: What do we value, and how do we pay for it?

In a money economy, everything has a cost. AUUF is no different. We hire staff, maintain a building, run programs. None of that is free, even with substantial volunteer time and effort. We all have to pay to keep it going. Membership carries an expectation of financial support. You expect to pay for food, clothing, TV, a car, gasoline, taxes, heat, lights, books, and music lessons. Why would you expect not to pay to support a community center, a spiritual home, a place where you have connected with others,

made friends, learned much, and where you enjoy spending time?

So, yes, it's crunch time. You need to decide how much of your resources you can regularly give to the Fellowship for what you value here. You need to commit to supporting AUUF with a pledge, or an increased pledge from previous years. Inflation may be down a fraction to 6.5%, but it still impacts AUUF's budget as well as yours. It's time to do the right thing.

[Click here](#) to view last Sunday's Stewardship video from Susan Orlansky



Treasurer's Mid-Year Report Part One:

WOW! Six months of AUUF's Fiscal Year 2023 are already over! It's time for me to let you know what's going on and what lies ahead...

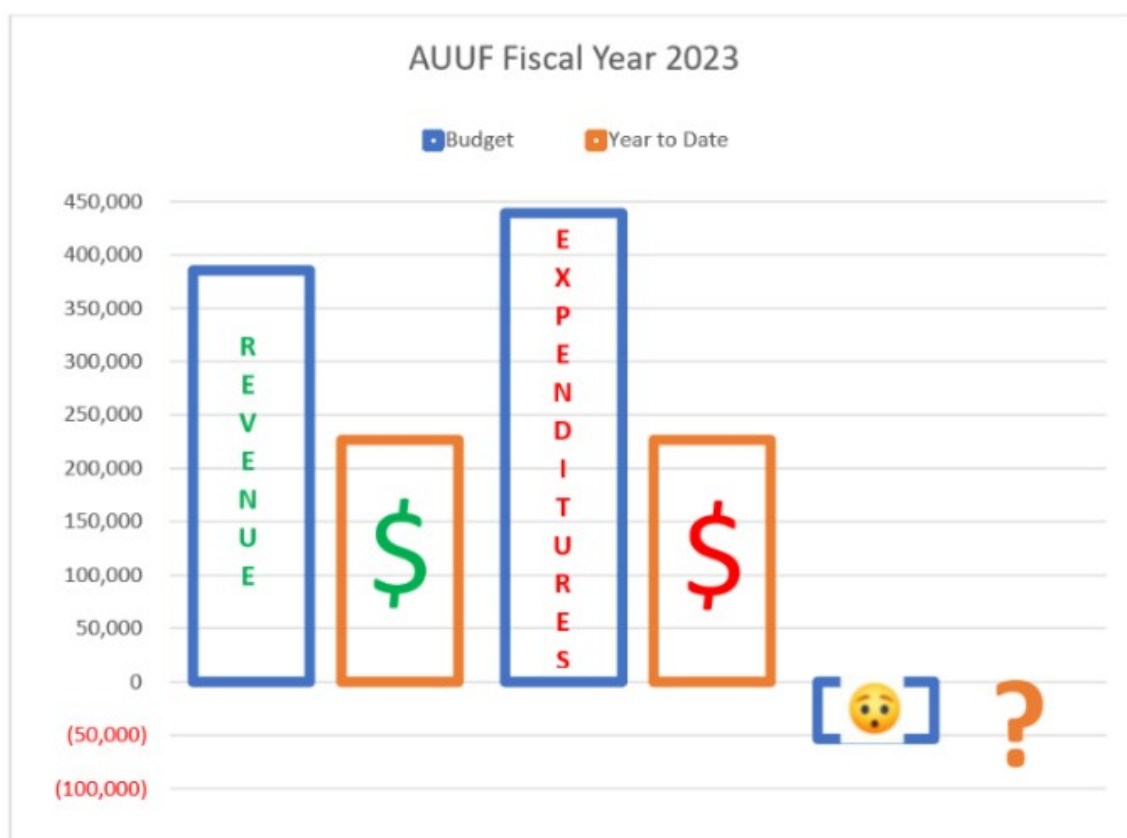
During our Annual Meeting, last May our Members voted to gear up for an exciting year by restoring the full smorgasbord of AUUF activities as we evolve into our new COVID-normalized era.

Our Members adopted a budget that assumes folks like you will come back and that we can pick up where we left off. This year's budget gambles on revenue returning nearly to pre-COVID levels. (The budget includes an authorization to incur a big deficit if revenues do not recover.)

Well, here we are and it's already January 2023...

Well, here we are and it's already January, 2023...

- AUUF is offering a full smorgasbord of AUUF activities, though the Forum has not yet returned to the Sanctuary since we still need the A/V Tech support required to manage the technical challenges that come with participatory audio.
- Revenue has picked up, but not to pre-COVID levels.
 - Several of our major donors retired or moved out of state taking most of their money with them.
 - Our membership has been shrinking for several years.
- Expenditures have been picking up, but are running below projected levels for this point in the year.
 - We assumed we would have a growing cadre of Volunteers
 - We are grateful for everyone who has stepped up but we still need more.
 - We budgeted for:
 - Our Minister and Director of Learning & Exploration;
 - A part-time: Administrator, Communications Specialist, Music Director;
 - A Learning & Exploration Associate (decided not to fill this year); &
 - An A/V Tech (almost ready to be advertised).
- My Treasurer's crystal ball is still cloudy so I'm not ready to project a huge deficit. There's still time for revenues to gather more steam. (If there is a deficit, we have reserves sufficient to cover this year's loss.)



BUT WHAT I'M REALLY CONCERNED ABOUT IS NEXT FISCAL YEAR'S BUDGET! (Be sure to check out next week's installment!)

Spaghetti & Game Night - Hosted by CYLE!

SPAGHETTI & GAME NIGHT

You're Invited!

SATURDAY FEB 11TH 6-8P @ AUUF

WE'LL BRING DINNER!

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



Freethinkers

12 pm Fridays

Freethinkers discussion group meets every Friday from noon - 1:30 pm on zoom (join us using the zoom link located on the [AUUF website](#), calendar page).

. Our current book is *The Righteous Mind, Why Good People Are Divided by Politics and Religion*, by Jonathan Haidt. We are finishing the book this week and will discuss the Conclusion chapter and the whole book on Jan. 27 before we take up our next book (*Beyond Measure* by James Vincent).

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

AUUF Logo Task Force Update

Denise Martin recently launched the first meeting to explore new logo design ideas for AUUF. Shout out to Dennis Arashiro, Joe Princiotta, Irene and David O'Brien, and Ken Winterberger for attending and sharing their ideas. The zoom meeting included screen shares of several logos that we like, why we like them, and a discussion about what symbols, meanings, and criteria might be useful/important. Please contact Denise at dulcimer.diva@gmail.com if you'd like to join us on the journey to narrow down a few possibilities that we can eventually present to the Fellowship for a final vote.

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