



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

**Today At Your Fellowship**  
**Thursday**  
**May 19, 2022**

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**This Weekend @ AUUF**

[Find Zoom links here.](#)

**Thursday 5/19/22**

9 am HR Committee Meeting on Zoom  
5:30 pm Anti-Racism Team on Zoom

**Friday 5/20/22**

12 pm Freethinkers

**Saturday 5/21/2022**

Half Portion for Social Action for May  
is [Alaska Seeds of Change](#)

**Sunday 5/22/2022**

9 am The Forum **on Zoom ONLY**

11 am Sunday Worship Live at AUUF &  
on Zoom

**POSTPONED:** Spring Choir Concert

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Today we received notice that a staff member has tested positive for COVID. If you attended either Sunday Services on May 15th, or Choir on May 12th please be alerted you may have been exposed.

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## Choir Concert Postponed

It is with great sadness that I must share that our choir concert (which was scheduled for this coming Sunday) will be postponed. COVID numbers are on the rise, and unfortunately, I've tested positive. I'm surprised as I haven't been feeling any worse than I normally do during allergy season. It's a tricky thing!

Please, if you know a choir member, reach out to them with encouraging words as this is very disappointing for them. They've been working so hard and deserve your praise for all they do to contribute to AUUF. Please keep checking TAYF for an update about the new date for our concert. If you have questions, feel free to email me at [auufmusic@gmail.com](mailto:auufmusic@gmail.com).

Thank you,  
Megan Webb, AUUF Music Director



### *The Role of Philanthropy in Alaska*

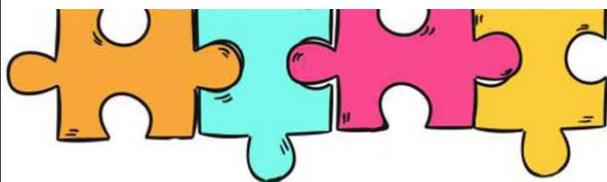
Diane Kaplan, President & CEO of the Rasmuson Foundation

## **The Forum on Zoom ONLY**

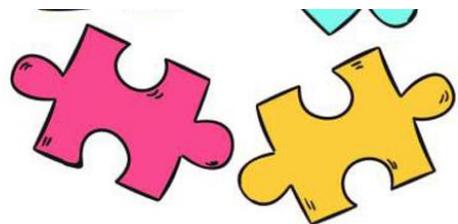
9 am Sunday, May 22

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

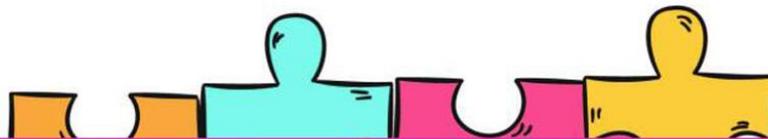
[Click here for Speaker's bio.](#)



**LEARN**



**UNLEARN**



### *Learning and Unlearning*

Student Minister Rebecca Bernard, Barb Clark

## **Sunday Worship Live at AUUF & on Zoom**

11 am Sunday, May 22

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

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

# What's one of Your Favorite AUUF Stories to Share? Our amazing Lifespan Religious Exploration ministry for the whole-person is one of mine!



PEACE CAMP

I'm proud to be associated with an organization that devotes 39% of its budget to helping individuals of all ages explore what it means to be a human being living in community; a community where mutual respect for self and all others is a guiding principle of our age-appropriate explorations of all aspects of our personhood – both the knowable and unknowable.



AUUF's vitality is enriched by the presence of the very young to the very old. Kids blossom during [Peace Camp](#) each Summer.

BLESSING THE CHILDREN



COMING OF AGE

Age-appropriate [Our Whole Lives](#) (OWL) curricula enhance the lives of everyone who participates - from kids to old folks. [Coming of Age](#) challenges those about to enter high school to examine their beliefs.



BRIDGING



AUUF's [Bridging](#) ceremony acknowledges our high school seniors' graduation into young adulthood. Our [Chalice Circles](#) and [other offerings](#) await everyone. – All made possible by our incredible team of volunteers!

In this era of unrelenting dystopian social media assaults on our basic humanity, AUUF can serve as our laboratory and sanctuary. Most of us find our way here in search of fellowship and wisdom that helps us and our children grow as engaged, compassionate individuals tending democracy's garden. We come to explore the unknown and unknowable together.

**Our budget reflects these AUUF values.**

Please share as much of your time, talent, and treasure as you can. And thank you, [Rosene](#), for 22 years of amazing Stewardship!

Shalom, Sid McCausland, Board Treasurer

Questions: [matusid@gmail.com](mailto:matusid@gmail.com)

[Painting by Victor Minca]



## STEWARDSHIP



Time ♦ Talent ♦ Treasure



[Click here to read the article as an PDF.](#)

## Freethinkers

12 pm Friday, May 20

The Freethinkers zoom every Friday (accessed on the AUUF website calendar) at noon for 1.5 hours to discuss a current book read. At the moment the group has just begun reading "Lifespan, Why We Age and Why We Don't Have To", by David Sinclair. For next

Friday, we will be discussing the book through chapter 2. It's a rather hopeful book about the advances in science and its probable impact on our generation and the next generation. We'll be able to live longer than we ever thought without illness and with complete vitality according to Sinclair. Join us Friday at noon for 1.5 hours of camaraderie and friendship, plus the opportunity to discuss with skepticism a book that, on its surface, is a rather outlandish premise. (Many folks quote the bible and its seemingly absolute limit to human life at 120 years. Yep, it's in there, but I've read the bible and feel that passage has been commonly but wrongly interpreted. I see that passage entirely differently. Does anybody wish to debate me?) As outlandish as the ideas in the Lifespan book are, the science seems to state otherwise. Join us!

Wray

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

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## Religious Exploration Happenings

### **AUUF Peace Camp happening July 18-22!**

There are still a few spots available in the Elementary and the Middle School tracks. Registration forms available at AUUF or at the website. Looking for volunteers to help with bike excursions. IF you love biking, consider this a great match with your talents. Bike rides happen daily in both age groups. Contact Rosene, Elayne or Andee.

### **CYRE is looking for some people interested in being part of the RE Team for '22-'23.**

We are beginning to plan for a more normal year next year, and would love your ideas and help. We also need loving adults to be class leaders as we provide the experiences and joy of Unitarian Universalism for our children and families. Contact Rosene Beachy, DLRE or Elayne Hunter.

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## ENDOWMENT FUND QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

During the Endowment Fund presentation at the annual AUUF congregational meeting on May 1, two questions were asked for which the committee had no immediate answers, and a promise was made to follow up. Those questions, and answers, follow.

**QUESTION:** What is the five year performance of the UU Common Fund? (The UU Common Fund, based in Boston, Mass, is where the AUUF Endowment Fund is 100% invested.)

**ANSWER:** As of March, 2022, the average yearly return was 9%.

**QUESTION:** Who are the money managers hired by the UU common fund committee to invest its endowment funds?

**ANSWER:** There are over 25 firms contracted to invest the funds, and over time those fund managers change as the UU investment goals and priorities are changed or refined. As of this moment a few of the larger fund managers are MSCI EAFE, Bloomberg US Aggregate TR, and HCAP Partners IV LP. For a complete listing of all managing companies, please visit the [UU common fund website here.](#)

And a big thank you to everyone who currently includes the AUUF Endowment Fund in their wills! Your generosity, no matter how big or small, will support the goals of AUUF for unlimited generations! THANK YOU!!!

Wray Kinard  
Endowment Committee Chair

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# Reactions to the Buffalo Shooting

Dear Ones,

Below is a recent letter from the staff at UUA's Side With Love regarding the recent shooting at the supermarket in Buffalo, NY. I think it's important to read because it brings out the complexities in the motivations behind this shooting and the deep-rooted cultural norms that allow this kind of behavior to happen.

Some of us who are white might still be uncomfortable with the term "white supremacy." Many of us have been taught that this term only refers to those in Ku Klux Klan garb or those who espouse neo-nazi rhetoric. That is not what this article is referring to. Instead, it is referring to the dominant US culture that holds up those from a Euro-American background (white) as having the supreme or "right" culture. For centuries, through our laws and cultural norms, the privileges for and ways of being of those who are white have been considered the norm. Anything else has been considered less than and treated accordingly. Because these norms are so deeply embedded in our institutions, they can be difficult to recognize. Even by people who try to live compassionate lives of justice for all.

This article is not (I don't think), trying to shame folks into feeling bad about our culture. Rather, the writers want us to be aware of the inequities of systems and cultures that white folks have lived with for so long that we may not notice their ills. Once we notice, we are then called by our faith and love to do something about it.

If you have questions, please don't hesitate to reach out to me. I am learning, too. Please take a moment to send love to all those family and friends affected by the Buffalo shooting and think of one thing you might be able to do to help. Then do it.

Blessings, Rev. Lise

[Click here to read the UU Side with Love article.](#)

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## The Power of Propaganda

Dennis Arashiro, Co-Chair Social Action Council

My mother was born and raised under Japanese militarism. Her father was a veteran of the Russo-Japanese War and later a policeman—in a police state. Her brother was a captain in the Imperial Army. She grew up with the Emperor Cult, believing him to be a living god on earth and the Japanese subjects loyal to him to be a superior race. She was indoctrinated into this all her young life. When I once asked when she stopped believing that Japan was winning World War II, she said it was when the emperor went on the radio to say that Japan had surrendered. Although she and I both laughed at her answer, the implications of her answer are deadly serious.

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

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## 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.

Active Shooter Procedure (Intruder/s entering with intent to harm)

- Call 911 when it is safe; describe shooter and weapons.
- The greeters, ushers, teachers, staff, etc. will need to assess the situation and guide people to the proper course of action.



## May is Mental Health Month: Suicide Prevention Strategies

If you are considering harming yourself or you need to talk with someone confidentially and judgment-free, contact Careline Alaska anytime toll-free 1-877-266-4357 (HELP) or text 4help to 839863. Please consider putting that number on your refrigerator now and carrying it with you as well, not only for yourself but for others in your life who may need it.

In Alaska, many of us have experienced losing a loved one or someone we know to suicide, or we may struggle with thoughts of suicide ourselves. Suicide rates in our state continue to be among the highest in the nation. Talking more openly about suicide – and learning more about suicide prevention – is a proven way to help save lives.

Click here to view more resources from [Careline Alaska](#).



## May Half Portion offering goes to Alaska Seeds of Change

Alaska Seeds of Change is a program for youth ages 16-23 that teaches essential job and life skills through work in an indoor hydroponic farm. We grow fresh produce year-round, including herbs like basil, chives, mint, and also salanova lettuce. These crops are sold at Blue Market in Anchorage, through Arctic Harvest Deliveries, to restaurants, and even sent out to towns and villages across Alaska.

Seeds is a program of Alaska Behavioral Health, a non-profit organization that provides mental health services, centered around the motto & Wellness for Everyone. At Seeds, apprentices all learn about mental health through a Wellness 101 workshop, and weekly movement and mindfulness breaks. Youth also have time to work on personal development goals, like getting a driver's license or applying for college.

Most youth who work at Alaska Seeds of Change start as apprentices through community partners, including Nine Star, Cook Inlet Tribal Council, and SAVE. Some volunteer or earn school credit for their initial time at Seeds. Once they have finished “basic training”, youth can apply for longer-term positions to lead growing efforts and teach the next generation of apprentices.

Volunteers are always welcome at Seeds! E-mail us at [volunteer@akseedsofchange](mailto:volunteer@akseedsofchange). We also rely on community support to help keep our program going and are grateful to be designated as the half-share partner for May!

**Go to [anchorageuuf.org](http://anchorageuuf.org)  
Click on the Half-Portion note  
at the bottom of the home page.  
Enter your donation under  
“Half-Portion for Social Action”**

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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, 907-248-3737 x2, [revlise@anchorageuuf.org](mailto:revlise@anchorageuuf.org)  
Office hours: Usually Tues, Th & Fri 10 am -- 2 pm

Gina Molletti Congregational Administrator, 907-248-3737 x1 [admin@anchorageuuf.org](mailto:admin@anchorageuuf.org)  
Gina's AUUF office hours are usually Mon-Thurs, 9 am - 1 pm  
Please call before coming.

Kelly Spring, Communications Specialist, [communications@anchorageuuf.org](mailto:communications@anchorageuuf.org)  
Kelly's remote office hours Mon - Friday 9 am - 1 pm

Megan Webb, Music Director, [auufmusic@gmail.com](mailto:auufmusic@gmail.com)

Rosene Beachy, Director of Lifespan Religious Exploration, [rbeachy@alaskalife.net](mailto:rbeachy@alaskalife.net)  
Office Hours –Monday and Thursday from 9 am - 4 pm

Rebecca Bernard, Ministerial Intern, 907-248-3737 x5, [rbernard.ak@gmail.com](mailto:rbernard.ak@gmail.com)  
Usually, Tuesdays 9 am-noon, 1-2 pm, and Wednesdays and Fridays 9 am-1 pm.

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