

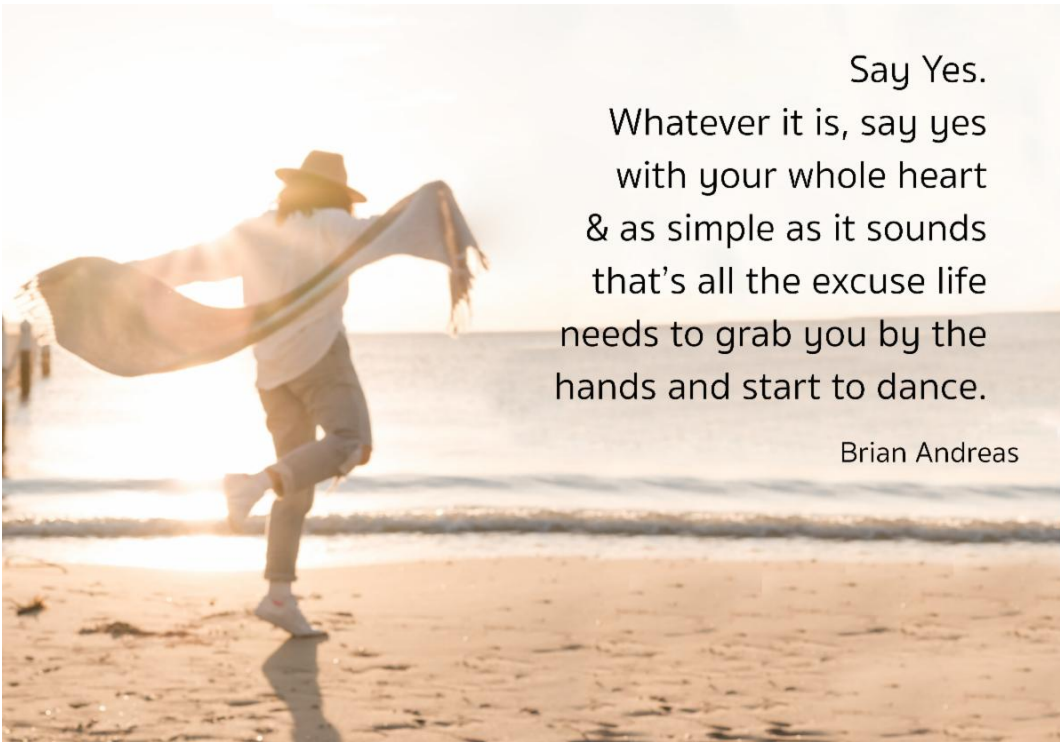


# ANCHORAGE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP

*diverse beliefs,  
common purpose.*

## Today At Your Fellowship

Monday  
May 3, 2021



Say Yes.  
Whatever it is, say yes  
with your whole heart  
& as simple as it sounds  
that's all the excuse life  
needs to grab you by the  
hands and start to dance.

Brian Andreas

## This Week @ AUUF on Zoom

### Monday 5/3/21

### Tuesday 5/4/21

4:30 pm Forum Planning Meeting  
7 pm Adult Religious Exploration with  
Rev. Lise

### Wednesday 5/5/21

6:30 pm Fireside Chats  
7 pm Building & Grounds Meeting

### Thursday 5/6/21

7 pm Choir Practice

### Saturday 5/8/21

*Goddess Stories*  
Rev. Lise Adams Sherry

### Sunday 5/9/21

Zoom links for public meetings always  
available on the calendar on the [AUUF  
homepage.](#)

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## Adult Religious Exploration with Rev. Lise

7 pm Tuesday, May 4

Find the link on the AUUF website calendar.

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## Staying Connected - Fireside Chat at the AUUF Outdoor Fire Pit and on Zoom!

6:30-8:00 pm Wednesday, May 5

For ages 18 and up

Bring a log or 2 for the fire if you're able

Happy Spring! Some of us have been enjoying monthly informal conversations over Zoom this winter, organized by AUUF's Connections Team. Now that the snow has melted and temperatures continue to rise, we have reserved the AUUF fire pit for one more in-person meeting at AUUF. Join us with your mask and favorite drink for a safe-distanced chat on May 5 at 6:30. We'll also put up a Zoom link on the AUUF website calendar in case anyone wants to join in remotely. And if mother nature throws us a sudden weather challenge, we have reserved the social room inside the building too. For more information, email [connections@auuf.org](mailto:connections@auuf.org)

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## Freethinkers

12 pm Friday, May 7

### Scientists Are All Too Human

We may like to think that scientists—so involved with facts, provability, reason, logic, and meticulous concern for testing, re-testing, and checking outcomes multiple times—are above the common clay, maintaining calm rationality, not given to mixing it up with other scientists over validity of results and credit. Not so!

Think back to Tesla and Edison and their rivalry over the issue of alternating current vs. direct current to electrify the country. Tesla and George Westinghouse won out, and you know what we use today.

And in Walter Isaacson's *The Code Breaker*, we are getting varying accounts of who did what, how much, and when, and who gets credit and is it ethical. We get gossip and infighting, suits, and backbiting. Nobody really stands above the fray in majestic indifference.

And thus it is with CRISPR, genetic scissors nearly anyone can use to edit genes, as Isaacson learns to do. Where will it lead next? Is credit being rightfully given? Read through chapter 50, "The Berkeley Lab," which is up to page 421 in a print copy. Join us Friday at noon on Zoom—go to the AUUF website, click on the Calendar for the Freethinkers link.

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## Thank you





*Thank you AUUF  
for a productive Annual Meeting.*

Participants

Eighty-two Members, Three Friends, & Three Guests

*Thank you, Team, fabulous job!*

Annual Meeting Support

Zoom Host: Alix McKee  
Device Support:  
Apple: Ken Winterberger  
All Other: Cassie Thomas  
Standby: James Dryden  
Registrar: Don Antrobus  
Usher: Andrea VanRavensway  
Usher: Diane Smith  
Publicity: Kelly Spring  
Music Director: Megan Webb  
Parliamentarian: Heather Flynn

Board of Directors

President: Sid McCausland ('23)  
Vice President: Kathleen Lucich ('21)  
Secretary: James Dryden ('23)  
Treasurer: Peggy Robinson ('22)  
Member: Don Antrobus ('23)  
Member: Robin Hill ('22)  
Member: Berta Gardner ('21)  
Past President: David O'Brien (*ex officio*)  
Contract Minister:  
Rev. Lise Adams Sherry (*ex officio*)

Additional Presenters

Reflection in Memoriam: Stephanie Koonz  
Endowment Committee: Wray Kinard, Chair  
Building & Grounds Committee: Don Antrobus, Co-Chair  
Nominating Committee: Michele Champion, Member

In Fellowship,

**Looking back**



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## AUUF Grounds clean-up

12:30-4:00 pm May 16

Come join the beautification and celebration of the outdoor grounds. May 16 12:30-4:00. Let's come together with rakes, brooms, colored chalk, painted rocks, and shovels to clean, plant, decorate and beautify our Beloved Community outdoor meeting space. There will be food to eat and some clean-up music to energize us as we celebrate the beginning of our warm seasons for growing, fun, and safe togetherness. Please wear masks to keep young and old safe. Contact Rosene for further details.



## Did you know?

Whalecoast tours generate revenue for UU congregations throughout Alaska? In 2019, AUUF earned over \$20,000 for hosting 40+ guests in each of the two summer tours. Last year, the tours were canceled due to Covid. This summer, there will only be about 30 guests for each tour, BUT the rate per night has increased, so we can still do pretty well if we are able to house all the vaccinated UU visitors from all over the U.S. Come join the fun and be a host! Details on AUUF website:

[Fund-raisers](#) or contact Denise Martin [dulcimer.diva@gmail.com](mailto:dulcimer.diva@gmail.com)

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# A Message from AUUF UU-the-Vote Team

By now, all Anchorage residents should have received a ballot for the mail-in runoff election for Mayor. Our policies do not allow us to endorse candidates, but we can encourage all of you to vote in this very important election. The race is close and the candidates have very different opinions so please research them if needed, and make sure you vote! The deadline is May 11th and there are drop boxes around town or you can mail it in with a first-class stamp.

[For dropbox locations click here.](#)

---

## AUUF Anti-Racism Team corner: Upcoming events of interest

Group Book Read Discussion - May 12 and 16th -  
Anti-Racism Book Circle: So You Want to Talk About Race, by Ijeoma Oluo  
Wednesday, May 12th, 6:30 pm and/or Sunday, May 16th at 6:30 pm

Join fellow AUUF members for a discussion about "So You Want to Talk About Race", a short (256-page) book by Ijeoma Oluo who shares her perspectives and experiences as a Black woman in the Pacific Northwest and coaches readers to engage in constructive, equitable dialogue on race and racism. Chapters include "What if I talk about race wrong?", "What is intersectionality and why do I need it?", "But what if I hate Al Sharpton?", "I just got called racist, what do I do now?" and more.

Michele Champion has 4 copies of this book checked out from the library. Please call or e-mail her to let her know you are interested in borrowing one. [akmichelechampion@yahoo.com](mailto:akmichelechampion@yahoo.com)  
907-341-9249

When the group discussion is completed, please return the books directly to Michele.

We are offering two sessions to accommodate differing schedules.

Find a copy at the Anchorage Public Library  
Borrow an e-book from the Anchorage Public Library  
Borrow an audiobook from the Anchorage Public Library  
Order a copy from local bookstore Writer's Block  
Buy an audiobook while supporting Writer's Block

No time for the whole book?

Watch Author Ijeoma Oluo speak on YouTube or read a short summary of the book.

---

Black Lives in Alaska: Journey, Justice, Joy  
at The Anchorage Museum

On view April 30 — Nov 30, 2021

In April 2021, the museum will open a new exhibition about Black history and culture in Alaska. Informed by conversations with community advisors, including activist and community archivist Cal Williams, and through the research of UAA's Ian Hartman, the exhibition will include photographs and documents from the Anchorage Museum archives that help tell the stories of the lives and experiences of members of Alaska's Black community.

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Watch this video on your own schedule:

[Suppressed 2021: The War On Democracy • Voter Suppression Documentary • BRAVE NEW FILMS \(BNF\)](#)

This 5-minute video was shared at a national UU-the-Vote event as well as our own local education session on Voter suppression.

Contact Michele Champion if you would like to take easy action to help get Senate Bill 1 (The For the People Act ) passed. [akmichelechampion@yahoo.com](mailto:akmichelechampion@yahoo.com) or 907-341-9249

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# GA PRIDE DRAG SHOW RETURNS!

Thanks to sponsorship support from UUA Ministries and Faith Development – LGBTQ and Multicultural Programs Team, the Virtual GA Pride Drag Show returns! Register for GA and plan to join Rev. Presha Mann (Rev. Marcus Fogliano), our most fabulous host, for an evening of joy and fun!

**Attention Queens and Kings:** upload a 3-to-5-minute video of your drag performance by **Thursday, May 27**. Selected videos will premiere Friday evening, June 25 at 5:30 pm PT / 6:30 pm MT / 7:30 pm CT / 8:30 pm ET. \$50 compensation will be offered per original submission, plus tips via Venmo and CashApp.



*an Alaska Behavioral Health program*

## May Half-Portion for Social Action

### 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 others. We also grow salanova lettuce and some other experimental plants. 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."

You may be wondering: "How does one get involved with Alaska Seeds of Change?" Most youth start as apprentices through our 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.

Maybe you're not 13-23? You can still be involved! Our volunteer program took a break during the pandemic, but we are now welcoming a limited number of volunteers back into our program. We also rely on community support to help keep

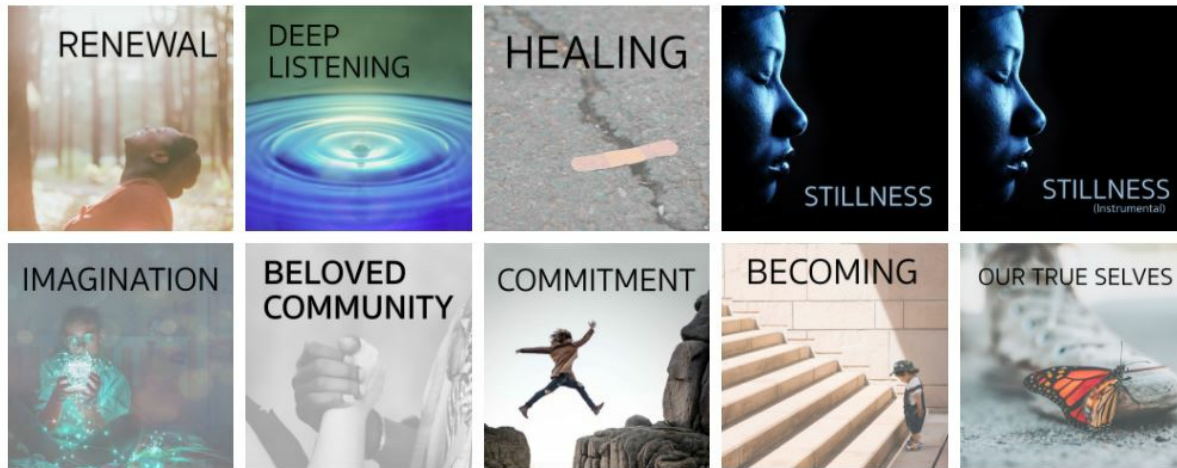


our program going and are grateful to be designated as the half-share partner for May.

– written by Peter Jeffries, former Youth Apprentice, and current Skill Development Specialist,

### [Alaska Seeds of Change](#)

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## Soul Matters Playlists

- [On Spotify](#)
- [On Youtube](#)
- [Archive of Playlists](#)

**amazon**smile  
Org Central



Anchorage Unitarian Universalist Fellowship | (907) 248-3737  
Minister, Rev. Lise Adams Sherry, 907-248-3737 x2, [revlise@anchorageuuf.org](mailto:revlise@anchorageuuf.org)  
Peggy Robinson Temp. Congregational Administrator, [admin@anchorageuuf.org](mailto:admin@anchorageuuf.org)  
Kelly Spring, Communications Specialist, [communications@anchorageuuf.org](mailto:communications@anchorageuuf.org)  
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 –By Appointment Only

STAY CONNECTED



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[Service Podcasts](#)

[Donate Now](#)



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

## Today At Your Fellowship

Friday  
May 7, 2021

### This Sunday @ AUUF on Zoom

Sunday 5/9/21

9 am Virtual Forum

*Black History and Culture in Alaska*

Historians Dr. Ian Hartman Cal Williams

10:15 am RE Chalice Circle

11 am Virtual Worship

*Goddess Stories*

Rev. Lise

6:30 pm Virtual Jr Youth Meet up



Zoom links for public meetings always  
available on the calendar on the [AUUF  
homepage.](#)



*Black History and Culture in Alaska*

Historians Dr. Ian Hartman & Cal Williams



# Virtual Forum

9 am Sunday, May 9

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

## May Virtual Forum

**A Look at Our May Forum Programs and call for help with Memorial Day tributes .**

### ***This month's Forums***

On Sunday, May 9, Dr. Ian Hartman, chair of the UAA History Department, and Cal Williams will present our Forum program on **Black History** and Culture in Alaska, which coincides with the opening of the new exhibit on this subject at the Anchorage Museum of History and Art. On March 15, we are looking forward to hearing from **Anchorage's new mayor**. If you haven't already voted for your choice of who this speaker should be, you have until May 11 to get your ballot in. On May 22 we will hear from **Dr. Dick Mandsager**, the Rasmuson Foundations' first senior fellow, who is finishing a two-year stint with the task force that's been exploring issues relating to **homelessness** in Anchorage--causes, consequences and solutions. And finally, we are planning a **Memorial Day** program to honor those who have lost their lives in military service to our nation.

### ***Asking for your help***

As part of our Memorial Day Forum, we would like to invite brief reminiscences from members of the fellowship about men and women in their lives who have died as a result of military service. These could be your parent, child, or sibling. It could be a grandparent or someone else in your "family tree" whose story you know. Or a friend or classmate. We're not trying to be rigid, either about your connection to the person, or about the definition of which deaths qualify—whether it was in combat, or from an attack or training exercise, or as a consequence of combat-related physical injuries, PTSD, or another aftermath. It could be a soldier or marine, a conscientious objector serving as a medic, or a chaplain. But we'd like to have contributions about people meaningful to you, to bring names and faces into the room as we honor all of the country's war dead. (Please keep in mind that the focus of this Forum is Memorial Day, and its purpose of honoring those who have died. We can do different programs other times relating to issues faced by veterans, or otherwise relating to military service and policy more generally.) If you have a story to share, or know someone else in the Fellowship who might, please contact John McKay at your earliest convenience by email at [mckay@alaska.net](mailto:mckay@alaska.net) at 907-350-5239.



*Goddess Stories*

Rev. Lise Adams Sherry

**Virtual Worship**

11am Sunday, May 9

Welcome to  
the month of  
**Story**



## May Virtual Worship

This month our theme is “Story.” Does this mean we’re going to pull out a bunch of fiction and simply read it? It could, and I’m sure we’ll be doing that for a Time for All Ages, at least a little bit. But we also want to learn from real lived experiences as well.

**11 am May 9**

### ***Goddess Stories***

**Rev. Lise Adams Sherry**

As we celebrate Mother’s Day, it seemed appropriate to explore some stories about Goddesses—isn’t that what all nurturing women are? Is a Goddess some sort of ethereal being, or are women everywhere working the necessary magic needed to thrive in the world while helping others to do the same?

**11 am May 16**

### ***Tales from Coming of Age***

**Our Coming of Age Youth, Rosene Beachy, DLRE, and Rev. Lise Adams Sherry**

Five young women have been participating in our Coming of Age program this year. They’ve been exploring topics that many young folks consider as they grow, and of course, UU spirituality and formation. This Sunday they’ll share their personal credos with us, and we’ll celebrate their discoveries.

**11 am May 23**

### ***Crossing Bridges into Adulthood***

**AUUF Graduating High School Seniors, Rosene Beach, DLRE and Rev. Lise Adams**

Sherry Our seniors will share what they’ve enjoyed about their time with us and their hopes for the future (for now). We’ll all participate in our joyous Bridging Ritual that recognizes the independent young adults they are becoming.

**11 am May 30**

### ***The Story of Code Talkers***

**Rev. Lise Adams Sherry**

During WWII, many of our Native Americans contributed to the war effort by creating code that used their language. It was a patriotic and valuable gift that unfortunately, was not recognized for years. This Memorial Day weekend, we’ll remember and celebrate their stories.

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## **AUUF Grounds clean-up**

**12:30-4:00 pm May 16**

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and there are drop boxes around town or you can mail it in with a first-class stamp.

[For dropbox locations click here.](#)

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## AUUF Anti-Racism Team corner: upcoming events of interest

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Group Book Read Discussion - May 12 and 16th at 6:30 PM

Anti-Racism Book Circle: So You Want to Talk About Race, by Ijeoma Oluo

Zoom Meeting ID: 948 9410 2880

Passcode: 909126

One tap mobile

+13462487799,,94894102880#,,,,\*909126# US (Houston)

+16699009128,,94894102880#,,,,\*909126# US (San Jose)

\*\* Update: participants are invited to complete this optional [pre-event form](#).

\*\*Please also check out the publisher's [discussion guide](#)

Join fellow AUUF members for a discussion about “ So You Want to Talk About Race”, a short (256-page) book by Ijeoma Oluo who shares her perspectives and experiences as a Black woman in the Pacific Northwest and coaches readers to engage in constructive, equitable dialogue on race and racism. Chapters include "What if I talk about race wrong?", "What is intersectionality and why do I need it?", "But what if I hate Al Sharpton?", "I just got called racist, what do I do now?" and more.

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907-341-9249

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Buy an audiobook while supporting Writer's Block

No time for a whole book?

Watch Author Ijeoma Oluo speak on YouTube or read a short summary of the book.

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at The Anchorage Museum

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---

Alaska Black Caucus Community Conversation:  
Sun May 9th, 7-8 PM

Join the Alaska Black Caucus to learn about resources for BIPOC students pursuing careers in healthcare.

[Register here](#)



THE INSTITUTE FOR THE STUDY  
OF  
BIRTH, BREATH, AND DEATH

## Sunday is Mother's Day

in honor of this day

The Holding Space for Our Mothers Course

is available to all for:

\$30

(regularly priced at \$200)

In honor of Mother's Day, this 8-hour, live, the online course holds space for the legacy of light and shadow that our mothers, and foremothers, have passed on to us.

As we acknowledge that mothers are complex, multifaceted beings ~ we come to hold space for the gifts and wounds we received with more grace, resilience, and resolve to pass on the example/power of an integrated life to the generations to come.

Treat yourself.

Treat your mother.

"Mother the mother" and register today



*an Alaska Behavioral Health program*

## May Half-Portion for Social Action

**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 others. We also grow salanova lettuce and some other experimental plants. 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.

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May.

– written by Peter Jeffries, former Youth Apprentice, and current Skill Development Specialist,

**Alaska Seeds of Change**  
**Donate to AUUF Half Portion.**

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## Soul Matters Playlists

- [On Spotify](#)
- [On Youtube](#)
- [Archive of Playlists](#)

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Anchorage Unitarian Universalist Fellowship | (907) 248-3737  
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Peggy Robinson Temp. Congregational Administrator, [admin@anchorageuuf.org](mailto:admin@anchorageuuf.org)  
Kelly Spring, Communications Specialist, [communications@anchorageuuf.org](mailto:communications@anchorageuuf.org)  
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 –By Appointment Only

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

## Today At Your Fellowship

Monday  
May 10, 2021

There is no greater  
agony than bearing  
an untold story  
inside you.

Maya Angelou



### This Week @ AUUF on Zoom

#### Monday 5/10

#### Tuesday 5/11

#### Wednesday 5/12

6-8 pm SCT Meeting

6:30 pm Anti-Racism Team Book Circle

#### Thursday 5/13

4:30 pm Board Executive Meeting

7:30 pm Music with Megan

#### Friday 5/14

12 pm Freethinkers on Zoom

COA Rites of Passage Weekend

#### Sunday 5/16

#### 9 am Virtual Forum

*Good Morning, Mr. Mayor*

Anchorage's New Mayor

#### 10:15 am Virtual Chalice Circle

#### 11 am Virtual Worship

*Tales from Coming of Age*

With our Coming of Age Youth, Rosene Beachy, DLRE, and Rev. Lise

12:30-4 pm AUUF Grounds Clean up

12:30 The Alliance

6:30 pm Anti-Racism Team Book Circle



Saturday 5/15

6:30 pm Virtual Junior Youth Meet up

Zoom links for public meetings always available on the calendar on the [AUUF homepage](#).

---

## AUUF Anti-Racism Team

**6:30 pm Wed. & Sunday, May 12 and 16th**

**Group Book Read Discussion THIS WEEK**

Anti-Racism Book Circle: So You Want to Talk About Race, by Ijeoma Oluo

Zoom Meeting ID: 948 9410 2880

Passcode: 909126

One tap mobile

+13462487799,,94894102880#,,,,\*909126# US (Houston)

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No time for a whole book?

Watch Author Ijeoma Oluo speak on YouTube or read a short summary of the book.

---

## Music with Megan

**7:30 pm Thursday, May 13**

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

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## Freethinkers

**12 pm, May 14**

***We'll Finish The Code Breaker—Where Do We Go Next?***

*by Marie Lundstrom*

The ethics of gene editing, especially germline (inheritable) editing is squishy at best. And as most of us acknowledged in Friday's discussion, whatever can be done with gene editing will happen because it can; “red lines” won't stop it. The

genie can't go back in the bottle—CRISPR is here, functional, available, and easy to use. What will happen next? Unknown and sobering.

A big plus in learning about Jennifer Doudna in Walter Isaacson's *The Code Breaker* is her leadership ability, a trait worth a great deal, especially in developing workable teams of scientists, in her command strength, and in her swift action in dealing with a crisis—the coronavirus. Her shared Nobel Prize with Emmanuelle Charpentier reflects not only great scientific competence and ingenuity but also qualities of character.

In considering what to read and talk about next, two books have so far been suggested: *Altered Inheritance: CRISPR and the Ethics of Human Genome Editing* (c2019) by Françoise Baylis, with the caveat, that it is quite dense; and a novel which deals with genetic alteration and also with Artificial Intelligence, *Klara and the Sun* (c2021) by the British Nobel Prize winner Kazuo Ishiguro.

Keep reading to the end of Isaacson's *The Code Breaker*. To join us on Zoom Friday at noon, go to the AUUF website, click on the Calendar, and the Freethinkers link will come up.

---

## AUUF Grounds clean-up

**12:30-4:00 pm May 16**

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## Annual Meeting News

82 Members, 3 Friends, and 3 Guests gathered on May 2nd for a productive AUUF Annual Business Meeting.

For many of us the highlight of the day was Don Antrobus' slideshow progress report on the renovations taking place in our Sanctuary. The schedule calls for completion by the end of this month.

We also appreciated learning about the gearing up of our Healthy Congregations Team from Rev. Lise. We'll be hearing a lot more from the Team as we begin returning to AUUF in person.

There were three action items:

- The election of three members to serve on the Endowment Committee: Harry Crawford and Judy Engh will be joining re-elected member Stephenie Wheeler for three-year terms. (The Endowment Committee reports directly to the Membership and is independent of our Board of Directors.)
- The election of two members to the Board of Directors: Kalen Saxton and Kathleen Luchich for three-year terms.
- The adoption of AUUF's 2022 Fiscal Year Budget will run from July 1, 2021, through June 30, 2022. Like everything else in our lives, COVID challenged AUUF in many ways with the result that we will conclude this year with a gap between our revenue and expenses. Next year's gap is projected to be a little more than 8% of total expenditures. Rather than cut back on our staffing, the Membership agreed to the use of our Operating Fund Reserves to tide us over as we seek to rebuild our



revenues over the next 14 months. The Budget adopted by the Members anticipates Fiscal Year 22 expenditures of \$406,965 offset by revenue totaling \$378,240 and the gap being filled with \$28,725 from our Undesignated Operating Fund Reserves.

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Thank you to everyone who believes in and supports AUUF. We are on the cusp of the next leg in our journey.

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## AUUF Joy & Sorrow

From Sunday Worship May 9th

From Diane Smith, Usher (she/her) : Joy that my daughter, Charlotte, offered to fix me a Mother's Day lunch/dinner this afternoon.

From Melissa Johnson: I'm a feather collector, and this week, during a particularly difficult mental state on a walk on an abandoned trail, I was presented with a bounty of beautiful feathers dappling the forest floor, which I took as a reminder from those looking out for me - angels, birds, another entity - that the earth is bountiful and will provide in my times of need.

From silverhjellen : My joy: attending a dear friend's birthday get-together and laughing and sharing together

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## A Message from AUUF UU-the-Vote Team

By now, all Anchorage residents should have received a ballot for the mail-in runoff election for Mayor. Our policies do not allow us to endorse candidates, but we can encourage all of you to

vote in this very important election. The race is close and the candidates have very different opinions so please research them if needed, and make sure you vote! The deadline is May 11th and there are drop boxes around town or you can mail it in with a first-class stamp.

[For dropbox locations click here.](#)

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## AUUF Anti-Racism Team corner: upcoming events of interest

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Black Lives in Alaska: Journey, Justice, Joy  
at The Anchorage Museum

On view April 30 — Nov 30, 2021

In April 2021, the museum opened a new exhibition about Black history and culture in Alaska. Informed by conversations with community advisors, including activist and community archivist Cal Williams, and through the research of UAA's Ian Hartman, the exhibition will include photographs and documents from the Anchorage Museum archives that help tell the stories of the lives and experiences of members of Alaska's Black community

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### Identity Newsletter | May 2021

## Community Listening Session

#### Community Listening Session

5:30-7:30 p.m. Thursday, May 13 (via Zoom)

We would like to hear from you. You are invited to share your concerns, ideas and feedback about Anchorage Pride and Identity. Identity needs your help to learn

and grow as an organization so we can better serve the community and embody our vision, values and mission.

Thank you to all those that have already spoken up and given feedback. This [community listening session](#) is another opportunity to connect with us.

If you can't make it or would like to give feedback anonymously, please complete [this form](#).

[Join the Conversation](#)

## Allyship and LGBTQ+ Liberation Workshop

### Community Workshop

6-7:30 p.m. Wednesday, May 12 (via Zoom)

In this workshop, you'll explore terminology, discover ways to show up for the LGBTQ+ community, share stories, and ask questions.

All who seek to advance the LGBTQ+ communities of Alaska are welcome. Start



your path to allyship. Deepen your impact.

The program is free to attend. \$25 suggested donation.

[Learn with us](#)



*an Alaska Behavioral Health program*

## May Half-Portion for Social Action

### 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 others. We also grow salanova lettuce and some other experimental plants. 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.

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You may be wondering: "How does one get involved with Alaska Seeds of Change?" Most youth start as apprentices through our 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.

Maybe you're not 13-23? You can still be involved! Our volunteer program took a break during the pandemic, but we are now welcoming a limited number of volunteers back into our program. 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.

– written by Peter Jeffries, former Youth Apprentice, and current Skill Development Specialist,

[Alaska Seeds of Change](#)  
[Donate to AUUF Half Portion.](#)



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Minister, Rev. Lise Adams Sherry, 907-248-3737 x2, [revlise@anchorageuuf.org](mailto:revlise@anchorageuuf.org)  
Peggy Robinson Temp. Congregational Administrator, [admin@anchorageuuf.org](mailto:admin@anchorageuuf.org)  
Kelly Spring, Communications Specialist, [communications@anchorageuuf.org](mailto:communications@anchorageuuf.org)  
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 –By Appointment Only

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

## Today At Your Fellowship

Friday  
May 14, 2021

### This Sunday @ AUUF on Zoom

Sunday 5/16

9 am Virtual Forum

10:15 am Virtual Chalice Circle  
11 am Virtual Worship

12:30-4 pm AUUF Grounds Clean up

12:30 The Alliance

6:30 pm Anti-Racism Team Book  
Circle

6:30 pm Virtual Junior Youth Meet up

Zoom links for public meetings always  
available on the calendar on the [AUUF  
homepage](#).

We will publish TAYF on Tuesday next  
week, rather than Monday.  
Thanks!  
Kelly Spring  
Communications Specialist

### Virtual Forum

9 am Sunday, May 16

*Alaska's State, Federal and ANCSA Lands—Who Owns  
What and Why?*

Retired Director of DNR Division of Mining, Land & Water  
Dick Mylius



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

[Click here for Speaker bio.](#)



## *Tales from Coming of Age*

With our Coming of Age Youth, Rosene Beachy, DLRE, and Rev. Lise

## **Virtual Worship**

**11 am Sunday, May 16**

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

## **AUUF Grounds clean-up**

**12:30-4:00 pm May 16**

Come join the beautification and celebration of the outdoor grounds. May 16 12:30-4:00. Let's come together with rakes, brooms, colored chalk, painted rocks, and shovels to clean, plant, decorate and beautify our Beloved Community outdoor meeting space. There will be food to eat and some clean-up music to energize us as we celebrate the beginning of our warm seasons for growing, fun, and safe togetherness. Please wear masks to keep young and old safe. Contact Rosene for further details.

## **AUUF Anti-Racism Team**

**6:30 pm Sunday, 16th**

Anti-Racism Book Circle: So You Want to Talk About Race, by Ijeoma Oluo

[Join Zoom Meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 948 9410 2880

Passcode: 909126

Dial by your location

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

+1 669 900 9128 US (San Jose)

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

\*\* Update: participants are invited to complete this [optional pre-event form](#)

\*\*Please also check out the [publisher's discussion guide](#)

Join fellow AUUF members for a discussion about "So You Want to Talk About Race", a short (256-page) book by Ijeoma Oluo who shares her perspectives and experiences as a Black woman in the Pacific Northwest and coaches readers to engage in constructive, equitable dialogue on race and racism. Chapters include "What if I talk about race wrong?", "What is intersectionality and why do I need it?", "But what if I hate Al Sharpton?", "I just got called racist, what do I do now?" and more.



Michele Champion still has 3 copies of this book checked out from the library. Please call or e-mail her to let her know you are interested in borrowing one. [akmichelechamp@yahoo.com](mailto:akmichelechamp@yahoo.com) 907-341-9249. When the group discussion is completed, please return the books directly to Michele. We are offering two sessions to accommodate differing schedules.

Find a copy at the Anchorage Public Library. Borrow an e-book from the Anchorage Public Library

Borrow an audiobook from the Anchorage Public Library. Order a copy from local bookstore Writer's Block. Buy an audiobook while supporting Writer's Block

No time for a whole book?

Watch Author Ijeoma Oluo speak on YouTube or read a short summary of the book.

---



## WhaleCoast Update 5-14-21

I really appreciate everyone who has offered to house guests for one or both tours this summer. I'm also grateful for a couple of people have volunteered to help do some driving. It's too early to determine how much help will be needed for that, but there's usually quite a bit needed for the June tour. Tentative tour schedule and driving details are on our website: [AUUF Fundraisers Page](#).

What we still need:

1. A couple more volunteer hosts for June, we especially need any who can offer 2 separate beds with at least one on the ground floor. Homes without pets, or without stairs are also very helpful.

2. About 5 or 6 volunteer hosts for the July tour, including some who could just be on standby as "backup." (Most July guests are couples who share one bed, 2 couples who'd like separate beds, and 3 solo travelers).

3. Volunteers who can help do some driving during one or both of the Anchorage tour dates. If you have a van, this would be especially useful.

The July 7-8 roster is showing fewer stair and pet issues, but we are still lacking enough hosts as a couple of previously committed hosts moved to "maybe" status. We have confirmed beds for about 22 guests, and need at least 5 more beds.

Help will also be needed for the banquets (June 13th and July 8).

**Reminder:** All volunteers for the tours need to be fully vaccinated for Covid in advance of coming into contact with guests (who will also be fully vaccinated). This means 2 weeks in advance of the start of dates. Free vaccines are readily available in Anchorage, so we don't expect this to be a problem.

Thanks again to everyone volunteering! If you want to help out, email me (Denise Martin): [dulcimer.diva@gmail.com](mailto:dulcimer.diva@gmail.com). If you're intrigued about the tours, go to [whalecoastak.org](http://whalecoastak.org) to view the entire statewide itinerary.

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## Takeaways from our Annual Meeting COVID Discussion

Nearly 80 AUUF'ers hung around for our COVID discussion at the end of our May 2nd Annual Business Meeting. Thank You! Here are the highlights:

The Biggest Takeaways:

- More than 80% of us are eager to return to AUUF ASAP with adequate COVID precautions.
- We need volunteers willing to learn and support our new A/V system before we can hold in person Forums and Worship Services.

Board protocols will continue to evolve every month, just as CDC and Anchorage guidelines are evolving almost weekly.

Small groups that have met here before can meet here now if they schedule through staff.

- If all members of the small group are fully vaccinated & the group agrees, masks are not required.
- If children are present, everyone must wear a mask.
- Individuals who are not vaccinated due to a medical condition must agree to wear a mask and maintain 6' of separation at all times.
  - Some have severe allergic reactions to specific vaccine components while others may have an underlying medical condition that their medical care provider feels may be compromised by the vaccines.
  - The Board does not currently have a policy dealing with non-medical excuses.

Large in-person meetings, such as Forum and Worship Service, will not begin until:

- Until we can provide access through Zoom or similar medium to all who cannot congregate due to COVID.
  - This is a UUA Accessibility and Inclusivity objective that our Board & staff support.
- Until we have enough volunteers for our A/V Team to support both activities every Sunday
  - A/V equipment is all new, digital, includes cameras, & all-rooms availability.
    - A huge learning curve will be involved as A/V team gains experience on-the-fly.
  - Alix and Ken are currently the only members of the team.
  - 16 volunteers would be "ideal."
  - [4 individuals volunteered during the Annual Meeting.]
  - It was suggested that we see if any youth or young adults would be willing to help out. [It was noted that they seem to be pretty busy already.]

Principals, including the Choir, may be the only ones physically present & broadcasting from the Sanctuary initially.

- The Board has asked Staff to be prepared to utilize the Sanctuary by May 31st, when it is scheduled to be ready for occupancy. The commencement date is merely a target, not a mandate.
- CDC says Choirs can sing with masks. [Technicians are not thrilled to hear that until more is known.]

Some additional discussion points:

- Something similar to Zoom pre-registration will allow us to limit in person access and allow the registrant to see how many seats are available.
- Hands-free handles on bathroom doors [or automatic openers] would be a big help [and are part of our long-term accessibility improvements plan].
- Encouraging the wearing of masks in Forum and Worship Service would provide some privacy for those uncomfortable with having their faces broadcast over Zoom while also providing one extra level of COVID protection.
- The Healthy Congregation Team will be on standby to assist in dealing with unresolved disagreements with individuals who fail to comply with our COVID protocols. [Failure to resolve may lead to being banned from in person activities for the duration of these COVID Times.]
- Let's revise the COVID Poll and see if we can get responses that reflect the latest CDC guidance.

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## Annual Meeting News

82 Members, 3 Friends, and 3 Guests gathered on May 2nd for a productive AUUF Annual



## Business Meeting.

For many of us the highlight of the day was Don Antrobus' slideshow progress report on the renovations taking place in our Sanctuary. The schedule calls for completion by the end of this month.

We also appreciated learning about the gearing up of our Healthy Congregations Team from Rev. Lise. We'll be hearing a lot more from the Team as we begin returning to AUUF in person.

There were three action items:

- The election of three members to serve on the Endowment Committee: Harry Crawford and Judy Engh will be joining re-elected member Stephenie Wheeler for three-year terms. (The Endowment Committee reports directly to the Membership and is independent of our Board of Directors.)
- The election of two members to the Board of Directors: Kalen Saxton and Kathleen Luchich for three-year terms.
- The adoption of AUUF's 2022 Fiscal Year Budget will run from July 1, 2021, through June 30, 2022. Like everything else in our lives, COVID challenged AUUF in many ways with the result that we will conclude this year with a gap between our revenue and expenses. Next year's gap is projected to be a little more than 8% of total expenditures. Rather than cut back on our staffing, the Membership agreed to the use of our Operating Fund Reserves to tide us over as we seek to rebuild our revenues over the next 14 months. The Budget adopted by the Members anticipates Fiscal Year 22 expenditures of \$406,965 offset by revenue totaling \$378,240 and the gap being filled with \$28,725 from our Undesignated Operating Fund Reserves.

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— written by Peter Jeffries, former Youth Apprentice, and current Skill Development Specialist,

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Peggy Robinson Temp. Congregational Administrator, [admin@anchorageuuf.org](mailto:admin@anchorageuuf.org)  
Kelly Spring, Communications Specialist, [communications@anchorageuuf.org](mailto:communications@anchorageuuf.org)

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 –By Appointment Only

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

## Today At Your Fellowship

Tuesday  
May 18, 2021

---

The heart of justice is truth telling,  
seeing ourselves and the world  
the way it is rather than  
the way we want it to be.  
More than ever before we,  
as a society, need to  
renew a commitment  
to truth telling.

bell hooks



### This Week @ AUUF on Zoom

**Tuesday 5/18**  
7 pm Adult RE with Rev. Lise

**Wednesday 5/19**  
6:30 pm Board Meeting

**Thursday 5/20**

**Friday 5/21**  
12pm Freethinkers

**Saturday 5/22**

**Sunday 5/23**  
9 am Virtual Forum

10:15 am Virtual Chalice Circle  
11 am Virtual Worship

6:30 pm Virtual Junior Youth Meet up

Zoom links for public meetings always  
available on the calendar on the [AUUF  
homepage](#)

---

## Adult Religious Exploration with Rev. Lise.

7 pm Tuesday, May 18

Visit the AUUF homepage calendar for the Zoom link.

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## Board Meeting

6:30 pm Wednesday, May 19

Visit the AUUF homepage calendar for the Zoom link.

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## Freethinkers

12 pm Friday, May 21

### Farewell, Jennifer—Hello, Klara by Marie Lundstrom

It is sad to have to say goodbye to Jennifer Doudna and all her CRISPR world colleagues in Walter Isaacson's *The Code Breaker*—and a grand read it was!. But Isaacson's ending isn't sad—it's upbeat about all the possibilities for gene editing to make our human lives better. Even though we may worry about the open-ended use of CRISPR, based on the notion that if it can be done, it likely will be, there is the hope we talked about Friday that our better angels will prevail in setting ethical limits for editing genes, especially germline (inheritable) changes. So, with Isaacson, we look forward optimistically to removing Huntington's Disease, Sickle-cell Anemia, and other really nasty genetic conditions, yet always keeping in the back of our minds the caveats about ethical uses.

In our new reading adventure, Kazuo Ishiguro's newest novel, *Klara and the Sun* (c2021, 320pp), we will see in action one writer's portrayal of gene editing to enhance humans as well as an example, in Klara, of Artificial Intelligence. It's clear that we will be tying together many of the strands of our discussions of the past few weeks and some from previous reading on AI. It could be fun! Or heart-breaking.

Since getting *Klara and the Sun* and reading some of it before next Friday, May 21, maybe a problem, go slow to start with by reading through Part 1, which should be about 50 or 60 pages. Later we may want to go faster. Side notes: Sony 3000 Pictures has already acquired screen rights. An abridged 10-part version of the novel was read aloud by a British actress on BBC Radio 4 in March. To join us Friday noon on Zoom, go to the AUUF website, click on the Calendar, and the Freethinkers link will come up.

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## Joy & Sorrows

From Sunday Worship May 16

From Marty Freeman: I loved seeing the firepit built by new Eagle scout Ben Fischer used by the Coming of Agers.

From Kate Lehn: The culmination of COA is both a joy and a sorrow





From Rosene Beachy, DLRE (she/her): Joy for these brilliant, thoughtful, and compassionate young women going forth into the world!

From Silver h Jellen: My joy today was listening to Boston Gay Men's Chorus- and listening to all of the messages in this service today from the youth, their mentors, and supporters.

## The Macks are Moving to Seattle at the end of May

Dear AUUF friends and family,

When the pandemic helped David's work become entirely online, it begged the question, "If you could live anywhere, where would you live?" We chose Seattle for proximity to extended family and as a place where we can all pursue our passions. In many ways, it feels like a decision deferred. We came to Anchorage ten years ago for three months and on our very first day here, we ran into the RE group at Eagle River Nature Center where we were immediately welcomed into the fold. We sang familiar UU songs together and, soon after, David and the kids attended Fall Frolic while I attended my first yoga teacher training weekend. When they returned from a fun-filled weekend, David said to me, "I don't want to predict the future, but I can't wait to go to Fall Frolic again next year." And so, largely because of this community, we extended our stay and it lasted ten years!



David and I were married on Vashon Island near Seattle on June 2, 2011 and we will celebrate our 20th wedding anniversary days after our arrival. It is, in fact, the place we imagined ourselves living. Audrey and Adam will begin high school and middle school, respectively, in the fall and have better proximity to grandparents and extended friends and family. David will maintain his work in Alaska remotely from Seattle. As for me, I will get everyone settled, continue on my yoga path, and am considering going back to school.

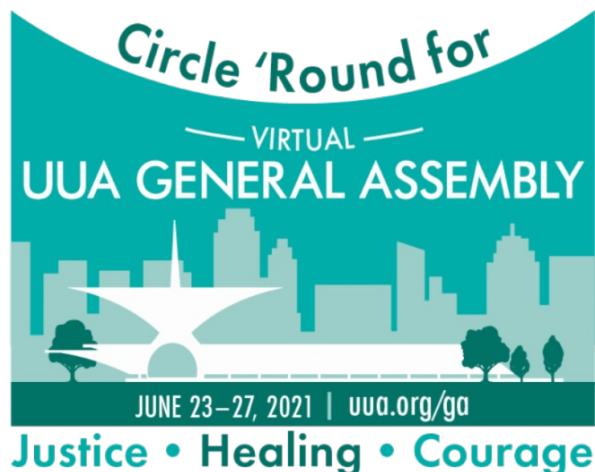
Our life-altering Alaska detour has forever transformed us. The friendships and the fellowship we shared with you are deep and rich and at times have been challenging. And for all of it, we are thankful. We thank you for the learning and the growth we experienced here. Many thanks for the love and care you showed our family. We saw and did incredible things together! We love you and will miss you all dearly. We look forward to staying in touch.

Best wishes,

David, Amanda, Audrey, and Adam Mack

*The Macks have been active members at AUUF since 2011. David served on the CYRE Committee, the Endowment Committee and the Safer Congregations Committee. Amanda was an RE teacher, served on the Board of Directors including one year as President, was a Coming of Age mentor, Program Council Co-chair and a Healthy Congregations member. Audrey recently completed the Coming of Age program. Both kids have attended RE and completed several OWL courses between them and are better off for it no matter what they may tell you! The family has attended several Fall Frolics.*





UU's from across the Nation and beyond will gather virtually for our annual General Assembly June 23th-27th. The sessions will include UUA business, exploration of the theological underpinnings of our faith, and opportunities to lean fully into our mission and principles.

Last year, GA had more than 4,900 registered attendees participate from remote locations around the world. While we've had to give up our face-to-face interactions and hugs, we have retained our dedication to community and made our experience more accessible and environmentally sustainable. Those of us from AUUF who attended last year found it to be a rich, rewarding, and educational experience.

If you are interested in learning more follow this link: [UUA GA2021](https://uua.org/ga).

If you are interested in becoming an AUUF Delegate to the GA, contact Sid: [president@anchorageuuf.org](mailto:president@anchorageuuf.org)



## Action Presentations This Week!

Earn points for the UU Drawdown Initiative by attending these Action Presentations. More events are added regularly; check the schedule below for more information.

Designing & Remodeling Greener Homes

Wednesday, May 19 at 2:30pm PT / 3:30 MT / 4:30 CT / 5:30 ET

Drawdown and the Sustainable Development Goals

Wednesday, May 19 at 3:30pm PT / 4:30 MT / 5:30 CT / 6:30 ET

[REGISTER HERE](#)

### Save the Date

BIPOC Caucus on Climate Justice Session 4 - May 27 at 5 pm PT/8 ET - [REGISTER](#)

Drawdown Fieldtrip for the Climate - May 29-31 - [MORE INFO](#)

Treaty People Gathering to Stop Line 3 - June 5-8 - [MORE INFO](#)

[Click here to read more](#)

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Maybe you're not 13-23? You can still be involved! Our volunteer program took a break during the pandemic, but we are now welcoming a limited number of volunteers back into our program. 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.

– written by Peter Jeffries, former Youth Apprentice, and current Skill Development Specialist,

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

## Today At Your Fellowship

Friday  
May 21, 2021

---

### This Sunday @ AUUF on Zoom

Sunday 5/23

9 am Virtual Forum

10:15 am Virtual Chalice Circle  
11 am Virtual Worship

6:30 pm Virtual Junior Youth Meet up

Zoom links for public meetings always  
available on the calendar on the [AUUF  
homepage](#)



*Homelessness in Anchorage—Where are We, Where are We Going?*  
Dr. Dick Mandsager

### Virtual Forum

9 am Sunday May 23, 2021





*Crossing Bridges into Adulthood AUUF Graduating High School Seniors,*  
Rosene Beach, DLRE & Rev. Lise Adams Sherry

## Virtual Worship

11 am Sunday May 23, 2021

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

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## Update from Rev. Lise

Greetings!

I hope you've all been enjoying our spring that has finally arrived!

New things are starting to bloom in our sanctuary as well, although not as quickly as we'd hoped. The pandemic has slowed down the supply chain so we are currently waiting for the new carpet we're installing on our chancel (stage) as well as the countertop for our new sound booth. Regardless, we are going to broadcast, with participants and their families only, from the sanctuary this Sunday! The occasion is our Bridging ceremony for graduating seniors so they can be all together this year. We hope you can join us on Zoom--just keep in mind everything will not be beautifully finished . . . yet. But we're getting closer!

After the Bridging ceremony this weekend, we're going to start regularly broadcasting from the Sanctuary beginning June 6. The staff, Worship Team, AV folks and I will continue to work on the bugs for our new space and equipment and see how things go. We'll be using our not-so-finished sanctuary state to do a little bit of experimenting with how we might like things to look. One of the things we still have to do is recruit more volunteers to learn our new AV system. If you'd like to add your expertise or learn a new skill, please let me know!

So, when can we have more people attending our worship services in person? Well, our trial run with our Bridgers this weekend will help us plan for having everyone (who's comfortable) attend in person. We know that until all our children are vaccinated, we want to err on the side of caution and have folks wearing masks to keep everyone healthy and safe during worship and other large group gatherings. We'll be talking more about this at our Program Council meeting on May 25. As soon as we have a definitive everybody-in-person start date for Sundays, we'll let you know.

In the meantime, next week I'll be taking one of my "reading weeks" which means I'll be mostly incommunicado (except for already planned meetings) as I study and prepare for this summer and next year. But when I get back, I'm looking forward to meeting more and more of you in person!

Until then, enjoy yourselves and go in peace.

Blessings, Rev. Lise

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## Everything is Falling into Place!

Just as our AUUF Staff and Board were grappling with detailed plans for reopening, the CDC changed the paradigm - it is o.k. for fully vaccinated folks to think of the family of COVID viruses the way we think about the evolving versions of The Flu! In spite of that good news, COVID can still be deadly for the unvaccinated, so please encourage everyone to get vaccinated..

While caution must be a key component of all AUUF activities, we are ready to accommodate in-person activities integrated with Zoom access for those who cannot attend in person due to COVID-19 concerns.

Our doors are now open to groups that can decide if they wish to make masks optional for the fully vaccinated but only if unvaccinated young people are not present. AUUF groups meeting in the building shall make best efforts to arrange for Zoom inclusion for participants unable to join in person due to COVID-19 concerns. Organizers must maintain a roster of participants for contact tracing in case someone in attendance is subsequently diagnosed with COVID. Events must be scheduled through the Administrator's Office.

AUUF is fully committed to protecting our unvaccinated young people. The best way for us to protect the kids is by setting a good example. We will insist that masks are worn by everyone. We will maintain at least three feet of distance between household pods when unvaccinated youth are present. We will insist that staff and volunteers working with our young people show proof of their own vaccinations.

Anyone who is not vaccinated shall wear a mask at all times and maintain at least 3 feet of distance from other household pods when in our building. We will rely on the individual to honor this mandate.

Immunocompromised individuals may not be fully protected by the vaccines and, therefore, should exercise an abundance of caution.

Feel free to contact me with any questions: [president@anchorageuuf.org](mailto:president@anchorageuuf.org).

For more information check out the links on our *AUUF & COVID* webpage which can be found on the *What's Happening* dropdown menu at the top of AUUF's homepage.

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## A Message from The Healthy Congregations Team

The Healthy Congregations team has been meeting and discussing ideas about how we want to be in community together at AUUF. We reviewed the Covenants of Right Relations from a number of other UU congregations, borrowed a number of their ideas, and came up with some of our own to put together a draft of a similar covenant to propose to our congregation. Please read the draft ([link here](#)) and submit any feedback or suggestions to the team care of Ann Larabee at [amhlar@yahoo.com](mailto:amhlar@yahoo.com).

We plan to organize small group discussions of the covenant in the fall. We are also

working on a process to guide us as a fellowship in dealing with conflict in our community.

With gratitude, the Healthy Congregations Team (Kelley Hartlieb, Loren Hildebrandt, Becca Bernard, Robin Hill, Rev. Lise, and Ann Larabee)"

[DRAFT 4 Covenant of Right Relations - Google Docs](#)

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## Did You Know...

WhaleCoast's UU tourists are required to show proof that they've been vaccinated before coming to Anchorage? We almost have enough hosts for the June tour, but we need 2 or 3 more including backups to ensure that AUUF can place every guest and earn funds for 3 nights' stay per guest. We're currently short of committed hosts for the July tour, and those guests will only be in Anchorage for 2 nights. As long as you're vaccinated, you can also help with the banquets, or be a driver helper. Come join the fun! Details on AUUF website: [Fund-raisers](#) or contact Denise Martin [dulcimer.diva@gmail.com](mailto:dulcimer.diva@gmail.com)

---

## AUUF Anti-Racism Team Corner: Events of Interest

Summer Anti-Racism Choose-Your-Own-Learning-Experience Circles

Read, watch, or listen to anything you want! Our summer circles will be a chance to share what we're reading, listening to, and/or viewing independently on our anti-racism journeys. Want suggestions? [Click here](#) for a list of titles AUUF members have appreciated recently and links to even more options.

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## Asian American & Pacific Islander Heritage Month



# Community Conversation

Wednesday, May 26, at 6 pm AKDT

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

Celebrate Asian American  
& Pacific Islander  
Heritage Month!

 PERSEVERANCE THEATRE  
— Alaskan Regional Theatre —

**Community Conversation**  
Live-Streaming May 26, 6 p.m.  
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## May Half-Portion for Social Action

### Alaska Seeds of Change

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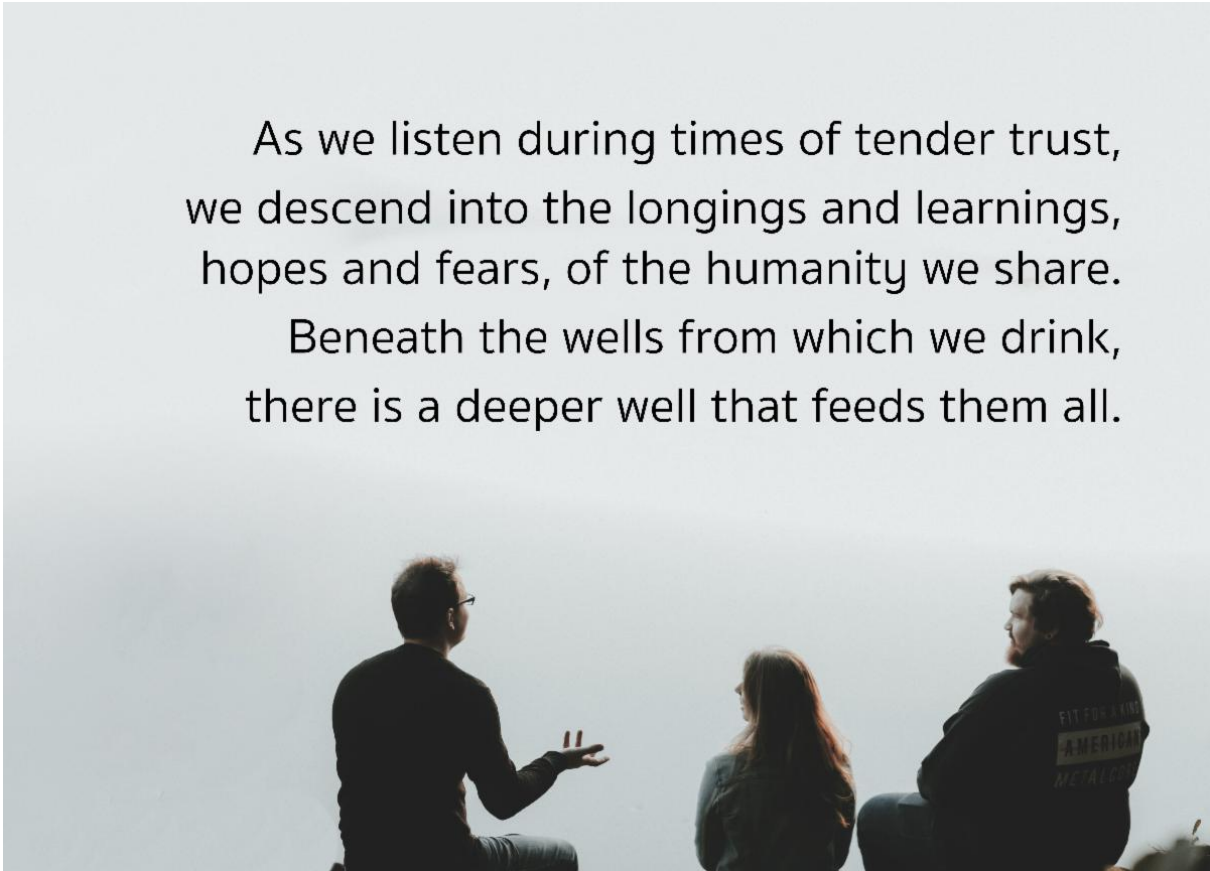
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*diverse beliefs,  
common purpose.*

## Today At Your Fellowship

Monday  
May 24, 2021

As we listen during times of tender trust,  
we descend into the longings and learnings,  
hopes and fears, of the humanity we share.

Beneath the wells from which we drink,  
there is a deeper well that feeds them all.



---

### This Week @ AUUF on Zoom

**Monday 5/24/21**

7-8 pm COA Informational Night

**Tuesday 5/25/21**

4:30 pm Finance Committee Meeting  
6-8 pm Program Council

**Wednesday 5/26/21****Saturday 5/29/21**

9 am -12 pm Sanctuary Work Party

**Sunday 5/30/21****9 am Virtual Forum**

*Voices from the Fellowship, and Friends  
Remembering Those Who Have Given  
Their Lives in Military Service to Our  
Country*

**Thursday 5/27/21**  
6:30 pm Pastoral Care Meeting

**Friday 5/28/21**  
12 pm Freethinkers  
1-4 pm Sanctuary Work Party

**11 am Virtual Worship**  
*The Story of Code Talkers* With Rev. Lise

**Zoom links for public meetings always available on the calendar on the [AUUF homepage](#)**

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## Freethinkers

12 pm Friday, May 28

### What Does an Artificial Friend Do?

by Marie Lundstrom

*Klara and the Sun* generates gut-twisting issues and questions we can talk about—and talk, and talk, and talk! How is an Artificial Friend programmed to learn? What are the ethical limits of AI programming? Is there a balance or competition between intellect and empathy in AI learning? If Klara's job is to be a friend to Josie, what does that entail? What body language clues does Klara learn from? How does the sun figure in Klara's perceptions? And how does it feel as a human reader to be limited to the point of view and perceptions of Klara, an Artificial Friend? And we did talk Friday past our session end time—there is much to think about in Klara's view of the world!

For next week, May 28, read Parts 2 and 3. For June 4, read Part 4. For June 11, finish up by reading Parts 5 and 6 of Kazuo Ishiguro's novel *Klara and the Sun*. To join us Friday at noon on Zoom, go to the AUUF website, click on the Calendar, and the Freethinkers link will come up.

Four books have so far been suggested for our next read: Michael Ondaatje's novel *Warlight* (c2018, 304pp). Beginning: "In 1945, our parents went away and left us in the care of two men who may have been criminals," says 14-year-old Nathaniel, who with his older sister Rachel finds himself living in bombed-out London." *Facing the Mountain: A True Story of Japanese American Heroes in WWII* (c2021, 560pp) by Daniel James Brown. Isabel Wilkerson's *Caste: The Origins of Our Discontents* (c2020, 496pp). *God's Shadow: Sultan Selim, His Ottoman Empire, and the Making of the Modern World* (c2020, hb+pb ca. 500pp) by Alan Mikhail.

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## Sanctuary Work Party

**1-4 pm Friday, May 28 and/or Saturday, 9 am-12 pm May 29**

Come join us in getting the Sanctuary ready for in-person services! We need your help in dusting, arranging chairs and pews, painting the music office, hanging quilts, making some wood trim pieces, and other miscellaneous tasks. Refreshments for the workers are also appreciated.

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## ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH:

A personal view  
by Dennis Arashiro

The Declaration of Independence identifies the unalienable rights of "Life, Liberty and the pursuit of happiness." Many of us in the Asian Pacific American community have spent much of our American journey in the pursuit of acceptance. Acceptance as full Americans. So much of our effort has focused on the elements we thought would lead to that. One



element was the English language. My parents made the conscious decision to turn me into a fluent English speaker with no knowledge of the Japanese language. They believed that this was one of the keys to making me fully American. Other keys were American citizenship, educational success, social and economic advancement, acts of loyalty and patriotism, acts of assimilation, and acts of heritage rejection. Erasing what was Japanese to create an American.

How sad! To think that such things would actually erase the permanent ink of foreignness. To measure success by the acceptance by others. I've learned that speaking like a Kansas farm boy can get you only so far. That citizenship can get you only so far. That college degree and professional success can get you only so far-- That no matter what I do to contribute to this country, there are still too many who can't get past how I look, nothing like their vision of a true American. I've learned that I can't let how others define me determine how I define myself. How I define my American identity.

So, what comes to my mind in observing Asian Pacific American Heritage Month? A heritage of lost heritage. Lost in the pursuit of acceptance. Lost as my mother chose to speak to me only in English while she struggled to learn English herself. It is a loss to mourn. Bittersweet because it was wrapped in a mother's love. The lesson I take from my loss is that it doesn't have to be that way. We need to reach the point where identity is not seen as a zero-sum game. We need to reach the point where being fully American means containing multitudes.



Celebrate Asian American  
& Pacific Islander  
Heritage Month!

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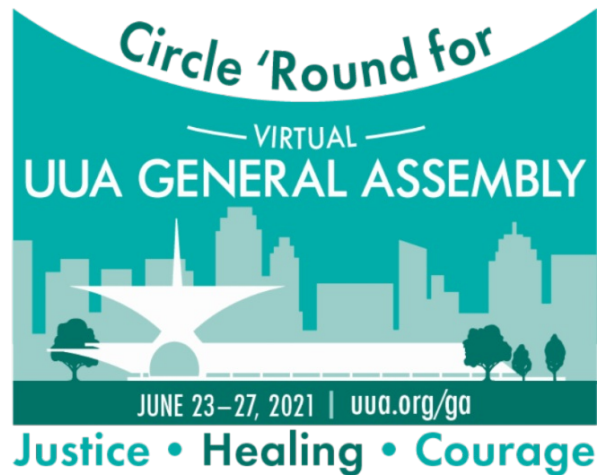
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## Half-Portion for Social Action

May 23rd was the last Sunday *Seeds of Change* will receive our Half-Portion. Rev. Lise is dedicating her May 30th Fifth Sunday offering to our PILOT (payment in lieu of taxes) donation to the Municipality.

## Orientation Calls for Treaty People Gathering

On June 5-8, water protectors and allies are called to be part of a mass civil disobedience to stop Line 3 in Minnesota. If you plan to attend the Treaty People Gathering, consider attending one of these orientation calls offered by the organizing team. You can also watch the kick-off recording, and sign up for the multifaith delegation!

Sunday, May 23 and Saturday, May 29

**REGISTER HERE**  
[Click here to read more.](#)



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## Today At Your Fellowship

Friday  
May 28, 2021

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*Voices from the Fellowship, and Friends: Remembering Those Who Have Given Their Lives in Military Service to Our Country*

## Virtual Forum

**9 am Sunday, May 30**

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

[Click here for speaker bio.](#)

---



## *The Story of Code Talkers*

With Rev. Lise Adams Sherry, Megan Webb Music Director,  
Cassie Thomas, Worship Associate, Rosene Beachy, DLRE

## Virtual Worship

**11 am Sunday, May 30**

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

---

## The Seeds have Flourished...

A Springtime reverie from Board President Sid McCausland

May is an amazing time of growth for every living thing in Alaska. My highlight has been watching our kids mature before my eyes. Our May 16th Coming of Age service honored our amazingly self-aware, solidly grounded, early-teen-years Junior High youth, while our May 23rd Bridging Ceremony welcomed our amazingly articulate Seniors into young adulthood.

In the midst of these discordant times, our young people, and the millions like them across our Nation, offer a ray of promise that better days lie ahead. They will not be lulled into submission like so many who have gone before.

Thank you, families, Rosene, and AUUF's amazing RE volunteers for helping our youth flourish.

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## Fifth Sunday Offering dedicated to PILOT

This Sunday's Fifth Sunday Special Offering for PILOT provides you with one more chance to honor our Municipality's commitment to protecting our health and the lives of our loved ones, friends, and neighbors during this ongoing COVID-19 pandemic that has already killed almost 200 times more Americans than died in the 9/11 terrorist attacks. COVID-19 and poisonous political rhetoric have combined to turn our lives upside down ever since we "hunkered down" in March of 2020.

Our Municipality of Anchorage's two Mayors, Assembly, and Muni staff have withstood withering personal attacks for pretty much an entire year. Why? Because they recognized the fragility inherent in Alaska's health care system which is exacerbated by our relative remoteness. They could have buckled under the blistering political assaults, but they did not. They stood true to their oath of office and their charge to protect and defend the health and safety of our residents.

This will be the 53rd time AUUF has presented its annual payment-in-lieu-of-taxes in recognition of our civic duty, but this time it's personal!

Join me on June 8th around 5:15 in the Assembly Chambers when we honor the steadfastness of our two Mayors, our Assembly, and Muni staff with our PILOT presentation.

And give generously to our Fifth Sunday Special Offering for PILOT on May 30th. You can donate on our website: [AUUF Giving](#) select the *Minister's Caring Fund* for your donation.

---

**ANCHORAGE DATES:**  
**JUNE 12-16 (Banquet 13th)**  
**JULY 7-8 (Banquet 8th)**



## WhaleCoast Update

**A big shout out to these volunteers who are preparing to host guests for the June National Parks Tour:**

Carol Harris, Paula Saylor, James Dryden/Stephanie Koonz, Rosene Beachy, Koala Vandruuff, Gwen Perry-Crawford, Jane Gray, Deb Addie, Heather Flynn, Berta Gardner, Joan Frankovich, Don and Terry Antrobus, and Judy Engh! Thanks so much!

**We could use 1-3 more hosts for June, and some for July.**

Contact Denise Martin [dulcimer.diva@gmail.com](mailto:dulcimer.diva@gmail.com), 907-317-6134 or Jane Gray [janeellengray@gmail.com](mailto:janeellengray@gmail.com) 907-980-7721. Also, Kalen Saxton will be the banquet coordinator for June – contact her if you can help set up, clean up, provide food, or other help on June 13: [saxtonkalen@gmail.com](mailto:saxtonkalen@gmail.com) or phone 907-244-8221.

WC Details on AUUF web page: [Fund-raisers](#)  
WC website: <https://whalecoastak.org/>

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# AUUF Anti-Racism Team Corner: Events of Interest

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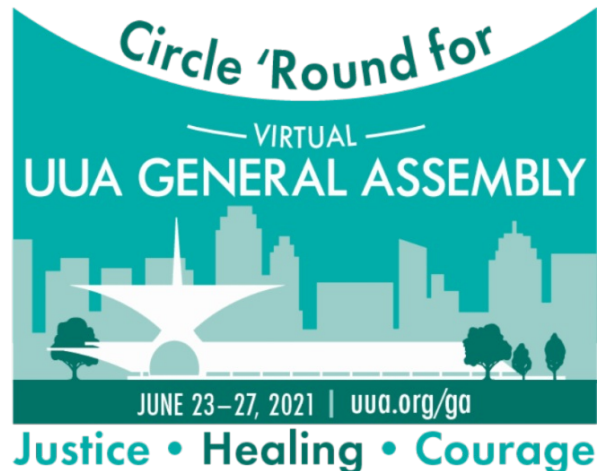
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## We Gather to Remember

By [Nicole McKay](#)



We gather to remember  
Those who could not grow old  
And those forced to grow old long before their time

We gather to mourn and grieve with one another  
All of our losses: the people, the stories, the loved ones,  
And the futures that could have been.



We gather to do the hard work  
Of facing the difficult realities of our present and our past:  
Where there is conflict, violence, war, and hatred.

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