



ANCHORAGE
UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST
FELLOWSHIP
diverse beliefs,
common purpose.

Today At Your Fellowship
Thursday
August 4, 2022

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

Thursday 8/4/22
7 pm Healthy Congregation Team

Friday 8/5/22
12 pm Freethinkers on Zoom

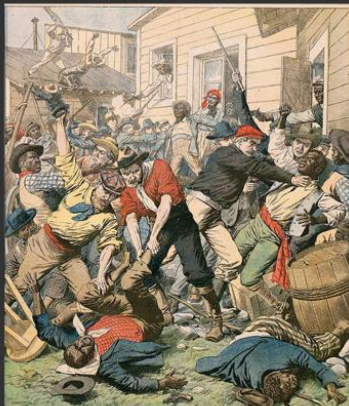
Saturday 8/6/2022

Sunday 8/7/2022

9 am The Forum **on Zoom**

11:00 am- Sunday Worship Live at AUUF
& on Zoom

Half Portion offering for August is
[**AFACT**](#)



Atlanta, 1906 from a French newspaper

**A White Historian
Explores "Race Riots"**

Susan Strasser
susanstrasser.net



A White Historian Explores "Race Riots"
With Dr. Susan Strasser

The Forum on Zoom ONLY
9 am Sunday, August 7, 2022

This Sunday's Forum will be a presentation by distinguished history professor emerita Dr. Susan Strasser called *A White Historian Explores "Race Riots."* Violent clashes between large crowds of different races have disturbed the social order in the United States since long before the Civil War, and the phrase "race riot" has been used to describe such disparate events as the Tulsa massacre of 1921, the 1968 uprisings following the assassination of Martin Luther King, and the anti-Chinese riots of the 1870s. Susan Strasser investigates the term and history of racially charged violence that has framed American discussions of race throughout the nation's history.

This Forum will not be recorded for podcasting, so Sunday morning will be your only opportunity to hear this talk.

Dr. Strasser has put together this ["race riots" reading list](#) that she encourages you to take a look at before her Forum presentation:

She encourages donations to the [NAACP Legal Defense Fund](#) and the [Equal Justice Initiative](#)

[Susan's website](#)

[Susan's email list sign up](#)

[Archive](#)

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

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

August at the Forum

Our speaker this Sunday, **August 14**, we'll hear from "our own" **Rosene Beachy**. After two decades of service as AUUF's Director of Religious Exploration, Rosene is leaving that position this month to pursue other passions. She has helped build our RE program into not only an integral part of the Fellowship but in many ways a model and inspiration for other programs around the country. Rosene will talk about ***Religious Exploration programs at AUUF: Looking Back, Looking Forward.***

There will be no separate Forum and Worship Service on Sunday, **August 21**. Instead, we will hold an all-Fellowship **Memorial Service at 10 a.m. for Gary Holthaus**, AUUF's last settled minister. You can find [Gary's obituary here](#).

Finally, on the last Sunday of **August, the 28th**, the **University of Alaska Chancellor** (and former Governor) **Sean Parnell** will tell us ***What We're Doing at Your State University***, from the vantage point of having completed his first year on the job—with a continuing opportunity to face many challenges.

Speakers' bios and photos can be accessed from the AUUF Home Page (www.anchorageuuf.org) through the link at "Virtual Forum," or by going to "Sunday Services" under the pull-down Menu for "Ministry." 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.



UUA GENERAL ASSEMBLY MULTIPLATFORM / PORTLAND • 2022



UU General Assembly Worship Marty Freeman, Worship Associate

Sunday Worship live AUUF & on Zoom

11:00 am Sunday, August 7

The 11:00 am worship service this Sunday will feature a video of the youth and a bridging service from the 2022 General Assembly, titled, "Linked Together." Come hear from some young UUs about what influences their faith, get a window into their perspectives, and hear why growing up is like a slinky going downstairs.

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

August Worship Services

Aug. 7, In-person and Zoom, 11 am

UUA General Assembly Worship

Marty Freeman, Worship Associate

During General Assembly each year, participants get to attend worship from a variety of speakers we might not otherwise get to experience. Fortunately for those of us who didn't go to GA, some of the services are recorded and we get to experience them at a later date. Join us to see how other UUs enjoy worship.

Aug. 14, In-person & on Zoom, 10:30 AM

Worshipping with Fairbanks

As we've been disengaging from much of our high COVID practices, we haven't been spending as much time with the UU Fellowship of Fairbanks. Now is our chance. We'll have an in-person component and the topic is TBA. Note we're starting half an hour earlier.

Aug. 21, In-person and Zoom 10 am

Celebrating Gary Holthaus in Memoriam

Rev. Lise Adams Sherry and Friends

Rev. Gary Holthaus served AUUF from 2012-2017 and was a beloved part of our community. We'll celebrate both him and his contributions to AUUF. Several fellowship members will be sharing readings and memories. We're starting at 10 am—this service will be in place of the Forum and Worship. A reception will follow.

Aug. 28, In-person and Zoom 11 am

It's mid-summer and I don't have a clue

Rev. Lise Adams Sherry, Joyce Laine

Another title for today's sermon could be TBD, but maybe it will be about the otherworldliness and time-jumping time of summer. I'll keep you posted. Note we're back to our regular 11 am start time for Worship.

DLRE Transitions

Change can be hard, can't it? It can bring up so many feelings--grief for what is lost, anxiety about what's coming next. It can also be exciting and uplifting--will we get to try some new ideas or meet new people? And then often, when we're in the midst of change we find ourselves feeling both sad and glad for what's happening. Unfortunately, that can send us into guilt spirals--maybe we feel we're betraying what once was. Maybe we feel we're not being supportive enough of what is to come. Like many human emotions and events, it's complex. And it's okay to feel all the things we feel--in fact, it's advisable. The Buddhist teacher, Thich Nhat Hahn, taught us that it's important to make friends with our emotions. We need to acknowledge them and gently get to know them, without judgment. Then, hopefully, we can more easily come to terms with all our feelings, without the guilt spirals.

Another spiritual lesson can be found in gratitude. When we lose someone or something we love, our sadness is in relation to how much we appreciated it or them. If we can acknowledge our sadness, and then focus on the good memories with gratitude, that process can often help us move forward with more joy.

All of this is to say that I know I and many of us are sad about Rosene retiring. Her last official day as DLRE was July 31. But we got to have some wonderful times with her this year before she left (and for the 20-plus years she served at AUUF). Think of all the middle schoolers who shared their credos in our worship service as the final step of their Coming of Age program. How many children has she shared stories with over the years? How many adults has she checked in with to see how they're doing? There's OWL, Youth Cons, bags of RE library books specially delivered during the pandemic, Peace Camp, Fall Frolic (we're having one again--September 24-25--register now!), multi-gen events, soup Sundays--there is so much that Rosene has been a part of and so many ways she has helped us to learn, love, and thrive.

And now, Rosene is moving on to another stage of her life. We get to take the many gifts she gave us, remember them with gratitude, and consider what we'd like to keep, change, and perhaps honorably retire.

And, a new DLRE is about to enter our lives. Ray Macfarlane (they/none**) has accepted the position of DLRE at AUUF and has started the position, long distance from Nevada, this week. They will be dropping into a few meetings, via Zoom, for the rest of this week, traveling up to Alaska with their family next week, and then they'll be in person with us the week of August 15. The hiring team and I are so excited for you to meet Ray! We found Ray to be warm, personable, knowledgeable, collaborative, creative, willing to try new things, and willing to learn from others. We're looking forward to learning from Ray, sharing the wonderful activities we've done for years, perhaps with a new twist, and maybe retiring a few activities as well. We'll all have to wait and see how things unfold, weighing what seems right for now and what seems right for another time.

Change is hard. It's also constant--we've definitely learned that over the last few years, haven't we? We've also learned that we can get through, laugh at our mistakes and rejoice in our successes. I think some of the things that I'm most excited to share with Ray are the inquisitiveness, warmth, laughter, and grace that resonate through AUUF.

I'm going to miss Rosene, and I'm excited to learn from and work with Ray. Both things are true and we need to let ourselves acknowledge that we can hold both things as we move forward.

Please join me in welcoming Ray, the newest member of our wonderful AUUF staff.

Blessings, Rev. Lise

** (they/none) These are some folks' preferred pronouns. They use they instead of the binary he or she. None is to indicate that if we don't use they when referring to them, it's perfectly fine to use no pronoun at all and simply substitute their name in place of a

Heeeerrrrrrreeeee's Ray!

I grew up in Southern Utah, hiking barefoot in the red rock, and rolling down the pink sand dunes. After leaving the church of my youth, I found an anchor in UU fellowship while attending college in the Rocky Mountains. The commitment I found there to service, inclusion, diversity, accountability, and to self-examination provided a path for me to harness my impact on the world to support the values I believe in. As I connected with congregations in Chicago and Las Vegas while pursuing my Ph.D. in Sociology, I found meaningful community connections and service opportunities that inspired me and made a difference in people's lives, including creating a support group for queer youth in rural Utah, teaching in youth programs, and working with The Night Ministry to build community and bring resources to people experiencing homelessness.



I have worked in advocacy and education for the past 20 years: anti-violence work in domestic violence and LGBTQIA+ services, economic justice supporting access to careers, education, leadership opportunities and housing for underrepresented populations, and evaluating mental health and addiction services. While teaching at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, I had the opportunity to help students couch individual experiences into the context of the larger social structures, and give them the tools to understand data and how it can inform our world and our efforts to make change.

This week, my family and I will be making the long-anticipated, week-long trip up the Alcan. My partner, Martin (he), and children, Sagan (8 yrs, she) and Rhonan (7 yrs, they) are excited to see whales, real rivers, and relatives, and to be back in their tribal area. My partner, Joe (he) will be working in support services, and can't wait to be out kayaking under the pine trees. I (they/none) am looking forward to camping under the northern lights, and watching the beautiful sunrise/sunsets of winter on the hoarfrost. We can't wait to meet everyone in person soon!



Staying Connected - Fireside Chat at the AUUF Outdoor Fire Pit

Wed. Aug 10, 6:30-8:00 pm

Happy Summer! The AUUF Connections Team invites you to bring your favorite beverage and join us for some informal conversations around the AUUF fire pit. We might also enjoy sharing "s'mores" and other light snacks. Tell your friends — we will try to do this every 2nd Wednesday of the month til further notice. If the weather turns foul, we can move inside. For more information, email connections@anchorageuuf.org

Anti-Racism Team Corner

AUUF event: SUNDAY 8/7/22 Forum, "Race Riots" Dr. Susan Strasser

This service will NOT be recorded. Here is a link to the ["race riots" reading list that Dr. Strasser](#) has put together.

Community Events

We Are of: A Weekend of Relating to Race & Land

Join the Alaska Humanities Forum on August 6th & 7th for a weekend-long conversation about the relationship between race and land in Alaska. They are excited to invite Mistinguette Smith from the Black/Land Project to facilitate a two-day intensive conversation experience.

Saturday, August 6th will be a conversation focusing on BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, and People of Color) experiences and their relationship to race and land. Sunday, August 7th will be a conversation across racial experiences about relationships to race and land. Both days will include elements of storytelling, art conversation, and connection to land and place. See the agenda below.

[REGISTER HERE](#)

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We are thankful to our partners at The Alaska Center, NeighborWorks Alaska, Native Movement, Intertribal Agriculture Council, Alaska Master Gardeners Anchorage, and the Alaska Botanical Garden for making this work possible.

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Alaska Black Caucus Community Conversation: Buy from Black Businesses

Sunday 8/7/22, 7 - 8 PM on zoom (see registration link below)

Join the Alaska Black Caucus in a conversation with Jay King recognizing August as National Black Business Month.

Grammy Award-winning singer and record label executive, Jay King is the CEO/President of the California Black Chamber of Commerce.

Join Mr. Jay King as he shares "The Debt Owed," a text on Black America focused on financial literacy. King is a firm supporter of financial literacy and believes financial literacy should be the number one concern of Black communities and cities. "If Black Americans were financially literate, we could change 100 years of stagnation in just ten."

[REGISTER NOW](#)

Zoom Security Update: A new way to start meetings using the host key

If you host/start Zoom meetings using the AUUF Zoom account this info is for you.

In March Zoom upped its security, to include one-time passwords. Some people have tried to start a meeting but then were asked to present a code that has been sent to the email address associated with the Zoom account. You probably didn't have access to this email address. All these things may have prevented you from starting your meeting.

The reason for this is that Zoom accounts aren't intended to have many users log in, it's actually against the terms of service of the account.

The solution for this problem, provided by the UUA Zoom Help Desk: **Using the host key function.**

When you request a new zoom meeting from here on out you will be provided with the host key rather than the account log-in info. You will log in to your own free Zoom account. You can visit [Zoom.us](#) to sign up for a free account. You will see an orange button that says, "Sign up, it's free!"

You will then use the host key to start the meeting instead of logging directly into the

AUUF Zoom account.

[Here is a short video explaining what the host key is and how to start a meeting using it.](#)

One thing to know about using the host key is that the waiting room for the meeting will need to be disabled to allow you to claim host of the meeting. If you use the waiting room, you will need to turn it back on after you claim host.

Our goal is to have everyone using the host key by August 8th. Next week, I will contact those who have scheduled meetings and give you the host key to the account, on which your meeting is hosted. Soon after everyone has the host key we will change the passwords to the accounts.

Please reach out if you have questions after watching the video

-Kelly Spring
Communications Specialist
communications@anchorageuuf.org

Help for the Houseless at Centennial Campground

The Salvation Army is facilitating donation management for the campground. (Please refrain from bringing items directly to the campground.)

Bring donations to:
The Salvation Army Safe Campus - McKinnell House
1712 A Street, Anchorage, AK 99501

Helpful items to donate are as follows:

- Handheld lamps (battery operated) or flashlights
- Rain ponchos
- New or gently used sweatshirts & sweatpants
- New or gently used boots or tennis shoes
- Bus passes
- Gas cards
- Camping mats (under sleeping bag)

Thank you for your support of our neighbors in need!

Rev. Gary Holthaus Memorial

10 am Sunday, August 21

AUUF will hold a memorial for Rev. Gary Holthaus on Sunday, Aug. 21 at 10 am. This will be a joint hybrid (in-person and online) service in place of our regular Forum and Worship services. A reception, hosted by the Alliance, will take place following the service. We hope you can join us as we celebrate Gary and his time at AUUF.

New Congregational Administrator

Some of you may have already heard that we have a new Congregational Administrator. Gina, our past administrator, decided that she wanted to explore parts of the world outside of Alaska (she grew up here). We have been sad to see Gina go, but are happy to welcome Shellie Gooden in her place. Below is a brief introduction from Shellie. I hope you

can stop by the office and welcome her to our community.

Warm regards,
Rev. Lise

Hello! My name is Shellie Gooden (she/her). I am feeling very blessed to be part of AUUF, and part of a community that shares my passion for life, faith, and social justice. I reside near Jewel Lake with 2 of my sons and youngest daughter. I am a mom of 6, former military wife and classroom teacher by profession. I moonlight as a Girl Scout Leader and baker. If it involves kids, books, or a rally - sign me up and I will see you there! We are only in our second year living in Alaska, although I have tried my whole life to be here! I am older and achier now, but never spent much time indoors if I could avoid it - and growing up in Denver, we avoided it a lot. Thank you all so much for having me. Thank you for all the amazing things that you are doing in the world.



The August Half Portion offering goes to AFACT

Anchorage Faith & Action Congregations Together

For the past 18 years, AFACT has worked to democratically address quality of life issues affecting Anchorage, particularly those impacting the poor and disenfranchised. Housing, homelessness, health care, climate change, and home weatherization, are among the issues that have motivated and mobilized members of AUUF and 14 other diverse local faith organizations to act.

Often, in addressing these issues, AFACT has partnered with organizations around the state, and the impact of that work has been felt well beyond the Municipality. Now, AFACT is pleased to announce a new initiative: we are merging with our sister organization in the Mat-Su, VIA (Valley Interfaith Action), to launch a statewide umbrella organization for organizing groups in Alaska. The organization will be called JOIN (Justice Organizing Interfaith Network) and will coordinate statewide organizing campaigns. Please watch out for a founding event this fall.

In the meantime, AFACT's work in Anchorage continues. Many have been dismayed at the treatment of our neighbors experiencing homelessness the past few months. To that end, AFACT leaders from Central Lutheran Church are currently planning an action aimed at improving coordination and communication among service providers and stake holders. Your support makes these kinds of efforts possible.

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: 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 Monday-Thursday, 10 am -- 2 pm.
Please call before coming.

Kelly Spring, (she/ her) Communications Specialist, communications@anchorageuuf.org
Kelly's remote office hours Mon, Wed, Thursday Friday 9 am -1 pm

Megan Webb, (she/ her) Music Director, auufmusic@gmail.com

Ray Macfarlane (they/none), Director of Lifespan Religious Exploration, drray@anchorageuuf.org
Office hours TBA

STAY CONNECTED



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FELLOWSHIP
*diverse beliefs,
common purpose.*

Today At Your Fellowship
Thursday
August 11, 2022

This Weekend @ AUUF

[Find Zoom links here.](#)

Thursday 8/11/22

5:30 pm Board Agenda Setting Meeting

Friday 8/12/22

12 pm Freethinkers on Zoom

Saturday 8/13/2022

Sunday 8/14/2022

9 am The Forum **on Zoom**

10:30 am- UUFF Sunday Worship AUUF
Watch party & on Zoom

12:30 pm The Alliance

2:30 pm Worship Associate Meeting

Half Portion offering for August is
[AFACT](#)



*Religious Exploration programs at AUUF: Looking Back,
Looking Forward, With Rosene Beachy*

The Forum on Zoom ONLY

9 am Sunday, August 14, 2022

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

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

August at the Forum

There will be no separate Forum and Worship Service on Sunday, **August 21**. Instead, we will hold an all-Fellowship **Memorial Service at 10 a.m. for Gary Holthaus**, AUUF's last settled minister. You can find [Gary's obituary here](#).

Finally, on the last Sunday of **August, the 28th**, the **University of Alaska Chancellor** (and former Governor) **Sean Parnell** will tell us ***What We're Doing at Your State University***, from the vantage point of having completed his first year on the job—with a continuing opportunity to face many challenges.

Speakers' bios and photos can be accessed from the AUUF Home Page (www.anchorageuuf.org) through the link at "Virtual Forum," or by going to "Sunday Services" under the pull-down Menu for "Ministry." 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.



The Work That Reconnects
With Lydia Violet Harutoonian
UU Fairbanks Fellowship

UUFF Sunday Worship on Zoom

10:30 am Sunday, August 14

The Work That Reconnects
Guest Speaker Lydia Violet Harutoonian

Guest Speaker Lydia Violet Harutoonian will lead us through an intimate experience with the Work That Reconnects (WTR), a dynamic, interactive body of work developed by Joanna Macy, a scholar and respected elder in systems theory, deep ecology, and Buddhism as well as 50+ years of international activism.

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

August Worship Services

Aug. 21, In-person and Zoom 10 am
Celebrating Gary Holthaus in Memoriam
Rev. Lise Adams Sherry and Friends

Rev. Gary Holthaus served AUUF from 2012-2017 and was a beloved part of our community. We'll celebrate both him and his contributions to AUUF. Several fellowship members will be sharing readings and memories. We're starting at 10 am—this service will be in place of the Forum and Worship. A reception will follow.

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Reception after Gary Holthaus Memorial Service

Seeking donations

The AUUF Alliance is organizing a reception after the memorial service for Gary Holthaus. Some members are donating food and drinks for everyone but we also want to encourage others to bring a favorite snack that they might have brought for coffee hour during the years Gary was with us. Bring items with you to the Fellowship on Sunday morning, August 21st. Questions? please contact stephaniekoonz@gmail.com.

August is Black Business Month

The Alaska Black Business Directory showcases and supports Alaskan Black-Owned Businesses.

[Alaska Black Business Directory](#)

Anti-Racism Team Corner

UU programs and events: Beloved Conversations: a virtual course offered thru Meadville Lombard Theological School (open to lay and ministerial folks)
Beloved Conversation is a program for people seeking to embody racial justice as a spiritual practice. Our program is grounded in Unitarian Universalism, developed and offered by the Fahs Collaborative at Meadville Lombard Theological School, and open to all learners. In Beloved Conversations, we are here to heal the impact of racism on our lives, in order to get free together.

- + Early Bird Registration: June 27-August 12, 2022 (use coupon code FALL22BCVEB for 10% off)
- + Registration Closes: August 26, 2022

Head to the [website to learn more!](#)

Ask AUUF members Erin Barker (barker.erin.12@gmail.com) as well as Rev Lise about their experiences with this curriculum - they loved it!

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COMMUNITY EVENTS:

Alaska Black Caucus Community Conversation: Race and Policing

Sun, August 14, 2022, 7-8 PM

Join the Alaska Black Caucus in a conversation about race and policing with a focus on local police reform and body camera policy implementation.

[Register now](#)

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Hello,

The Alaska Black Caucus (ABC) will participate in the annual Out of the Darkness event hosted by the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention. This year the event will be held on September 10, 2022, at the Cuddy Family Midtown Park.

ABC will have a booth and wants to invite members of the Allies for Change to get involved to help with the ABC booth or come participate in activities. This is such an important event in our community and a wonderful way to connect with community members.

If you are interested in helping with the ABC booth please let me or Brenda know by emailing Renee Endicott, email below.

Thank you, Allies for Change, our community is strong and better when we work together!
In service,

Renee Endicott

Ally Administrator

Email: renee.endicott84@gmail.com

Firepit Chatting Fun! Join us next month!

Several folks met last night around the campfire for our monthly "Firepit Chat". The weather was stupendous, the snacks were sweet, the conversation was delightful, and a good time was had by all! It was fun to meet each other in person and realize that even tho' we spent hours together by Zoom we look different in real life! The goal of our "Firepit Chats" is to get to know each other and especially to welcome new folks who want to meet people and learn more about AUUF. We plan to keep doing these monthly - on the 2nd Wednesday at 6:30 pm - as long as we can tolerate being together outside (ie: until it gets way too cold.) Mark your calendars and join the fun!!



There's still time to join us for Beloved Conversations Virtual

Early Bird Within Registration ends Friday, August 12th!

There is still time to get registered for the Fall Term of Within! Complete your registration and use the Early Bird Discount coupon code by August 12th to receive 10% off your registration for our Within program. See below for more details and head to our [website to learn more!](#)

Important Dates

Please note that the dates below could be subject to change due to unforeseen

circumstances.

- Early Bird Registration: June 27-August 12, 2022 (use coupon code FALL22BCVEB for 10% off)
- Registration Closes: August 26, 2022
- Program Begins / First Lesson is published: September 12, 2022
- Fall Term 2022 Meaning Making Session Dates: TO BE ANNOUNCED

Cost: \$250 USD per person (lay folks and religious professionals). White folks and anyone with economic privileges/ample professional expenses will be encouraged to pay more. Full and partial scholarships are plentiful and easily accessible!

*No one will be turned away for a lack of funds. Please email JeKaren at belovedconversations@meadville.edu to request a full or half scholarship.

Learn more about the Within program and register [HERE!](#)

DLRE Transitions

Change can be hard, can't it? It can bring up so many feelings--grief for what is lost, anxiety about what's coming next. It can also be exciting and uplifting--will we get to try some new ideas or meet new people? And then often, when we're in the midst of change we find ourselves feeling both sad and glad for what's happening. Unfortunately, that can send us into guilt spirals--maybe we feel we're betraying what once was. Maybe we feel we're not being supportive enough of what is to come. Like many human emotions and events, it's complex. And it's okay to feel all the things we feel--in fact, it's advisable. The Buddhist teacher, Thich Nhat Hahn, taught us that it's important to make friends with our emotions. We need to acknowledge them and gently get to know them, without judgment. Then, hopefully, we can more easily come to terms with all our feelings, without the guilt spirals.

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haven't we? We've also learned that we can get through, laugh at our mistakes and rejoice in our successes. I think some of the things that I'm most excited to share with Ray are the inquisitiveness, warmth, laughter, and grace that resonate through AUUF.

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Blessings, Rev. Lise

** (they/none) These are some folks' preferred pronouns. They use they instead of the binary he or she. None is to indicate that if we don't use they when referring to them, it's perfectly fine to use no pronoun at all and simply substitute their name in place of a pronoun.

Heeeerrrrreeeee's Ray!

I grew up in Southern Utah, hiking barefoot in the red rock, and rolling down the pink sand dunes. After leaving the church of my youth, I found an anchor in UU fellowship while attending college in the Rocky Mountains. The commitment I found there to service, inclusion, diversity, accountability, and to self-examination provided a path for me to harness my impact on the world to support the values I believe in. As I connected with congregations in Chicago and Las Vegas while pursuing my Ph.D. in Sociology, I found meaningful community connections and service opportunities that inspired me and made a difference in people's lives, including creating a support group for queer youth in rural Utah, teaching in youth programs, and working with The Night Ministry to build community and bring resources to people experiencing homelessness.



I have worked in advocacy and education for the past 20 years: anti-violence work in domestic violence and LGBTQIA+ services, economic justice supporting access to careers, education, leadership opportunities and housing for underrepresented populations, and evaluating mental health and addiction services. While teaching at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, I had the opportunity to help students couch individual experiences into the context of the larger social structures, and give them the tools to understand data and how it can inform our world and our efforts to make change.

This week, my family and I will be making the long-anticipated, week-long trip up the Alcan. My partner, Martin (he), and children, Sagan (8 yrs, she) and Rhonan (7 yrs, they) are excited to see whales, real rivers, and relatives, and to be back in their tribal area. My partner, Joe (he) will be working in support services, and can't wait to be out kayaking under the pine trees. I (they/none) am looking forward to camping under the northern lights, and watching the beautiful sunrise/sunsets of winter on the hoarfrost. We can't wait to meet everyone in person soon!

The August Half Portion offering goes to AFACT

Anchorage Faith & Action Congregations Together

For the past 18 years, AFACT has worked to democratically address quality of life issues affecting Anchorage, particularly those impacting the poor and disenfranchised. Housing, homelessness, health care, climate change, and home weatherization, are among the issues that have motivated and mobilized members of AUUF and 14 other diverse local faith organizations to act.

Often, in addressing these issues, AFACT has partnered with organizations around the

state, and the impact of that work has been felt well beyond the Municipality. Now, AFACT is pleased to announce a new initiative: we are merging with our sister organization in the Mat-Su, VIA (Valley Interfaith Action), to launch a statewide umbrella organization for organizing groups in Alaska. The organization will be called JOIN (Justice Organizing Interfaith Network) and will coordinate statewide organizing campaigns. Please watch out for a founding event this fall.

In the meantime, AFACT's work in Anchorage continues. Many have been dismayed at the treatment of our neighbors experiencing homelessness the past few months. To that end, AFACT leaders from Central Lutheran Church are currently planning an action aimed at improving coordination and communication among service providers and stake holders. Your support makes these kinds of efforts possible.

**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
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Kelly Spring, (she/ her) Communications Specialist, communications@anchorageuuf.org
Kelly's remote office hours Mon, Wed, Thursday Friday 9 am -1 pm

Megan Webb, (she/ her) Music Director, auufmusic@gmail.com

Ray Macfarlane (they/none), Director of Lifespan Religious Exploration, drray@anchorageuuf.org
Office hours TBA

STAY CONNECTED



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

Today At Your Fellowship
Thursday
August 18, 2022

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

Thursday 8/18/22

5:30 pm Anti-Racism Team on Zoom

6:30 pm Choir Practice

Friday 8/19/22

12 pm Freethinkers on Zoom

6 pm Music as Medicine Community Sing
with Lydia Violet

Saturday 8/20/2022

Sunday 8/21/2022

10:00 am- *Celebrating Gary Holthaus in
Memoriam* at AUUF & on Zoom.

**Half Portion offering for August is
[AFACT](#)**



Celebrating Gary Holthaus in Memoriam
Rev. Lise Adams Sherry and Friends

There will be no separate Forum and Worship Service on Sunday, **August 21**. Instead, we will hold an all-Fellowship **Memorial Service at 10 a.m. for Gary Holthaus**, AUUF's last settled minister. You can find [Gary's obituary here](#).

Rev. Gary Holthaus served AUUF from 2012-2017 and was a beloved part of our community. We'll celebrate both him and his contributions to AUUF. Several fellowship members will be sharing readings and memories. We're starting at 10 am—this service will be in place of the Forum and Worship. A reception will follow.

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

Lower our Loan & Burst our Balloon Payment!

You have been challenged to share your PFD or other funds with AUUF! Please help our Fellowship match **100%** of our Construction Loan Prepayment **"Burst the Balloon" \$50,000 Challenge Grant** to lower our loan by December 31st.

A dedicated and generous Member of AUUF believes you will be willing to share all or a portion of this year's Permanent Fund Dividend with our Fellowship. And Our Secret Challenger is prepared to **match** your generosity **dollar-for-dollar** up to **\$50,000!**



Our Secret Challenger notes that "eligible recipients will be receiving a \$3,200 direct deposit beginning September 20th. This 'free money' is a wonderful gift to each of us... More than half of our monthly payment goes to pay interest on the loan. This challenge grant presents an opportunity for AUUF to pay down our loan without impacting our personal budgets. AND it will save AUUF around \$42,000 in interest."

You're wondering "What balloon?" AUUF borrowed \$220,000 from a member on very favorable terms in the summer of 2017 so that we could complete critical improvements to the building we had purchased in 2014. The original loan called for a June **2033 balloon payment**. Prepayments to date have reduced the balloon payment to ~\$100,000. When you help us match the full **Challenge Grant**, AUUF will **retire the loan in 2029**. This would **burst the balloon** and save ~\$42,000 in interest – a **46% reduction in the cost of the loan**.

Please help us turn this incredible \$50,000 Challenge into \$100,000!!! Make your tax-deductible donation by check or online (use the **"LT Loan Principal Only"** box at [AUUF Online Donations](#)). Our Secret Challenger is standing by and will be revealed during a **Burst the Balloon celebration** acknowledging your generosity.

Fall Frolic

We want to encourage everyone who would like to attend Fall Frolic this year on September 24th & 25th to fill out their registration forms and turn them in as soon as possible. The sooner we have numbers to work with, the easier it is to plan for food and activities.

The deadline to turn in registrations is Homecoming Sunday, September 11th. The forms can be emailed to the UU, dropped off, or mailed.

Please start gathering wine corks if you have them in your house, we will need them for creating our moon lanterns. Plan to bring them a couple of weeks before Fall Frolic.

Thanks,
Mary Gregory

[Find Fall Frolic forms here.](#)

ANTI-RACISM TEAM CORNER

Book/Film reviews: Do you have a book or film that you have read or seen recently that speaks to the issue of Racism? Something you would recommend that other interested folks might like to read/watch? It could be non-fiction, fiction, science fiction, etc. If you would like to write a brief review to share with others, please contact Michele Champion at AKmichelechampion@yahoo.com. so we can put some notes here for others to learn about it. Thank you.

=====

Alaska Black Caucus
Community Conversation: Alaska Governor Candidate Forum
Date - 08/21/2022
7:00 pm - 8:15 pm

The Alaska Black Caucus is proud to present a Candidate Forum for the upcoming Alaska Gubernatorial Election. This 75-minute Zoom conversation is an opportunity for candidates to speak directly to the pressing issues and questions emerging from Alaska's BIPOC community. This meet-n-greet is not a debate; we are focused on understanding candidates' backgrounds, perspectives, and positions on issues of concern to the BIPOC community.

This spring, the Alaska Black Caucus invited every candidate through available channels (website, contact forms, email). We are looking forward to the forum with the candidates.
[Register now](#)

Postpartum Support International Alaska Chapter Awareness Walk

Postpartum Support International Alaska Chapter holds the eighth annual Climb Out of the Darkness ® in *Anchorage to raise awareness of perinatal mental health disorders*

What: Climb Out of the Darkness® is the world's largest event raising awareness of pregnancy and postpartum mental health disorders such as postpartum depression (PPD), anxiety, bipolar disorders, OCD, and psychosis. As part of the Climb, survivors, friends, families, and support professionals around the world climb, hike, or walk together at a local mountain or park to symbolize their collective rise out of the darkness. In Anchorage, they will enjoy kid-friendly activities, story sharing, live music by local band Folk Medicine and a flat, paved one-mile walk. Participants raise funds for the [Alaska Chapter of Postpartum Support International](#), a nonprofit organization dedicated to supporting pregnant and postpartum families around the world.

Where: Goose Lake Picnic Shelter in Anchorage, AK
When: Saturday, September 17th, at 11 am
How: [Please join TEAM Anchorage here.](#)

[For more information click here](#), or email your favorite AV tech, Joclyn Reilly at psiak@postpartum.net

August is Black Business Month

The Alaska Black Business Directory showcases and supports Alaskan Black-Owned Businesses.

[Alaska Black Business Directory](#)

There's still time to join us for Beloved Conversations Virtual

Early Bird Within Registration ends Friday, August 12th!

There is still time to get registered for the Fall Term of Within! Complete your registration and use the Early Bird Discount coupon code by August 12th to receive 10% off your registration for our Within program. See below for more details and head to our [website to learn more!](#)

Important Dates

Please note that the dates below could be subject to change due to unforeseen circumstances.

- **Registration Closes: August 26, 2022**
- Program Begins / First Lesson is published: September 12, 2022
- Fall Term 2022 Meaning Making Session Dates: TO BE ANNOUNCED

Cost: \$250 USD per person (lay folks and religious professionals). White folks and anyone with economic privileges/ample professional expenses will be encouraged to pay more. Full and partial scholarships are plentiful and easily accessible!

*No one will be turned away for a lack of funds. Please email JeKaren at belovedconversations@meadville.edu to request a full or half scholarship.

Learn more about the Within program and register [HERE!](#)



with **Lydia Violet**

MUSIC AS MEDICINE

COMMUNITY SING

ANCHORAGE

*Everyone welcome: no
music experience
necessary*

August 19th
6:30pm

\$20 suggested
donation
no one turned away
for lack of funds

Anchorage Unitarian
Universalist
Fellowship
2824 E 18th Ave

hosted by



WWW.SCHOOLFORTHEGREATTURNING.COM

The August Half Portion offering goes to AFACT

Anchorage Faith & Action Congregations Together

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FELLOWSHIP
*diverse beliefs,
common purpose.*

Today At Your Fellowship
Thursday
August 25, 2022

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

Thursday 8/25/22

6:30 pm Choir Rehearsal at AUUF

Friday 8/26/22

12 pm Freethinkers on Zoom

Saturday 8/27/2022

Sunday 8/28/2022

9:00 am Virtual Forum on Zoom

11:00 am Sunday Worship at AUUF & on Zoom

Half Portion offering for August is
[**AFACT**](#)



What We're Doing at Your State University
Sean Parnell, The University of Alaska Chancellor

Virtual Forum

9:00 am Sunday, August 28, 2022

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



Collaboration--Isn't it what we do best?
Rev. Lise Adams Sherry, Joyce Laine

Sunday Worship at AUUF and on Zoom

11:00 am Sunday, August 28, 2022

Even though it may seem like so many people today care only for their own lives and perspectives, in truth we have a long history of collaborating with one another. Let's explore our successes and failures, and where we may need to go from here.

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

Sunday Worship at AUUF and on Zoom

11:00 am September 4, 2022

The Woman Behind the New Deal Social Safety Net
With Frances Perkins

Please join Worship Associates Cassie Thomas and Ken Winterberger at 11 AM Sunday, September 4th to explore one woman's contributions to our country's social safety net. Frances Perkins served as FDR's Secretary of Labor throughout his Administration and is widely credited with the creation of the Social Security program and the implementation of many other employment compensations and protection measures.

September Half Portion Recipient Food Bank of Alaska

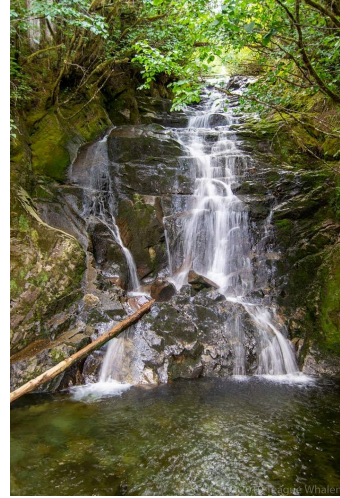
Homecoming & Water Communion Service

11:00 am September 11, 2022

Please join us for our annual Homecoming and water communion service as we gather again after the summer months, and many more spent isolating from COVID. Don't forget to bring a small amount of water from someplace that nourishes your soul: a garden, a pond, a camping spot, whatever is important to you. At our Sunday service, we'll mingle our waters just as all our lives are

interwoven, too.

Tongass Waterfall by Teague Whalen



Rev. Lise on Vacation

Rev. Lise will be on vacation from August 29--Sept. 5. If you have a pastoral emergency, please contact our Pastoral Care Team chair, Stephanie Koonz at 907.744.2428. Otherwise, you may contact the Congregational Administrator, Shellie, at 907.248.3737, in Rev. Lise's absence.

Thank you!

Thank you!

On Sunday, at Gary's memorial service, I thanked the many people who helped make the service happen--the ushers, AV folks, my fellow speakers, the choir, and the Alliance for their refreshments. I forgot to thank Ken Winterberger, however. My apologies! Ken has graciously been donating his time to put many of our Sunday services, memorials, and other events in podcast form for many years. And, it was because of Ken that we were able to listen to Gary Holthaus share his poem with us last Sunday. So, thank you, Ken, for all the time you've given us and for allowing us to hear Gary's wonderful voice again.

Blessings, Rev. Lise

Homecoming Events 2022

Homecoming & Water Communion

Sun Sept 11, 11a - MultiGen @ AUUF/Zoom

CYRE Welcome Back

Sun Sept 18, 11a, Downstairs @ AUUF

Fall Choir Concert

Fri Sept 23rd 7p

Followed by Songs & S'mores @ AUUF

Fall Frolic Campout

Sat Sept 24, 9a to Sun 25, 12p

@ Kings Lake, Wasilla

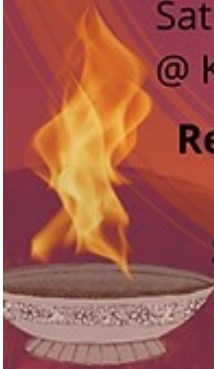
Register asap for CYRE and Fall Frolic:

AnchorageUUF.org/Fall-Frolic

Support organizers by registering

*before the deadline, Sun 9/11

RECONNECT AND RENEW!!



Fall Back Into RE!!

Fall is almost here and everyone is getting settled back in for the year. Come reconnect with the congregation and with Religious Exploration! Save these dates to join the festivities and sign up!

Homecoming & Water Communion

Sun, Sept 11 - 11 am in the AUUF Sanctuary and on Zoom

This is a Multi-Generational Service to reunite after our adventures over the summer and bring back the richness of our experiences to share with each other.

*Please support the RE volunteers and make sure to be registered for CYRE and Fall Frolic on or *ideally before this date!

CYRE Welcome Back

Sun, Sept 18 - 11 am Downstairs at AUUF

Activities and games to reconnect, get to know all the new faces, and meet teachers for the year! Sign up online by emailing [forms here](#), or at the Greeter's table as soon as you can!

All parents should sign up for dates to volunteer as a helper. If you are able, please sign up to teach CYRE! We need volunteers for these classes:

WATER SKIPPERS & WIND WALKERS - 1- 4-year-olds
2 Teachers, volunteering 2-3 times per month

SUN CATCHERS & PLANET KEEPERS - 1st - 4th graders

4 Teachers, volunteering 2-3 times per month

MOON SPINNERS - Jr. Youth Group

5th/6th/7th

3 Teachers, volunteering 2-3 times per month

WORLD MAKERS - High School

2 Teachers, volunteering 2-3 times per month

Teaching is an incredibly rewarding experience, and you will be the one to learn the most! Classes are coming up fast! Please let us know if you would be willing to help out as a teacher, and/or to help organize on the CYRE Committee! In addition to adult Committee members needed, we also encourage our youth to be a part of making decisions about their programming!

Fall Choir Concert - followed by Songs & S'mores

Fri, Sept 23 - 7 pm

Come enjoy the long-anticipated choir performance, and stay after for Songs & S'mores around the firepit at AUUF to kick off the night before Fall Frolic. This is a perfect night to catch the magic of music and fireside connections, even if you aren't able to make it to the Campout. Childcare will be provided for the concert.

Fall Frolic Campout

Sat, Sept 24, 9 am to Sunday afternoon

Reconnect and renew. Make memories together at the lake with moon lanterns, nature walks, the labyrinth, fairy houses, kids crafts, the talent show, late night games, songs and stories, then the polar plunge before Sunday Services at the lake. This event is a magical time to really connect with others. If you haven't been before, ask others what their favorite Fall Frolic memory is!

Whether camping in tents or cabins, please register as soon as possible so we can have a headcount for meals provided! Registrations are due 9/11, but please register before this cut off. You can register for both CYRE and Fall Frolic and [find more info here](#). Please let us know what you are most excited to volunteer for when you register! Specific volunteer roles will be posted for sign up at the Greeter's table

Adult RE

Small Groups, Chalice Circles, Covenant Groups... all the things we call the supportive clusters of members and friends who come together through the month, building bonds, discussing and studying together, participating in deep listening. We will begin both in-person and remote Covenant Groups starting in October, and will share more on how to get involved soon!

New Communications Deadlines

Hi Everyone,

We publish AUUF's email newsletter Today at Your Fellowship, week on Thursday. The new deadline for articles to be accepted for Today at Your Fellowship is now Wednesdays at 7 pm.

We also accept announcements for the slide show shown Sunday morning before the Worship service. The new deadline for the Sunday slide show announcement is now also Wednesday at 7 pm. Please keep announcements for the Sunday slide show brief.

You can submit articles and [announcement requests here](#).

Thanks!

Kelly Spring

Communications Specialist

AUUF Treasurer's Report for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022 deserves your attention

Submitted by Sid McCausland, Board Treasurer



Here are a few highlights:

Introduction: As the new year began on July 1, 2021, AUUF's COVID mitigation strategies spilled over into Fiscal Year 2022 with significant ongoing reductions in in-person activities. The fiscal year then proceeded to present us with a number of surprises; many of which resolved to our advantage. Even though we are operating with just one full month of unencumbered Working Capital, we concluded the year on, let us say, *relatively* stable financial ground.

As Fiscal Year 2023 commences, our Settled Minister (*at last!*) is assembling the staff we will need to flourish in the days ahead.

Please think of ways we can generate additional revenue to support AUUF's missions...

Revenue: Members and Friends upped their pledges, offerings, and donations during the second half of the year...AUUF host families generated Whale Coast revenue 60% over budget due to the incredible volunteer efforts of AUUF's longtime Whale Coast Admiral Denise Martin. All that added up to total Operating Fund revenues for the fiscal year *flooding in 5% over budget!* **Thank you, Members & Friends!**

Pledges account for nearly 80% of AUUF's Operating Fund Revenue.

Rental income fell 53% short of budget due mostly, but not entirely, to our COVID rules.

Attracting more renters to our facilities will improve our return on assets, improve our cash flow, help cover our fixed costs, and enhance our ability to balance our budget. **Please give some thought to recommending AUUF to groups you work with who could meet in our safe space...**

Expenditures: Savings occurred in several program areas as AUUF's COVID policies impacted in-person activities and their related expenses. This resulted in the fiscal year's total Operating Fund expenditures *falling 4% under budget...*

Challenging Times: These have been challenging times for each of us. Yet in Fellowship, we can build our AUUF community as we work together to advance humanistic values within our greater Anchorage community. There is so much we can accomplish together. AUUF needs you if AUUF is to flourish. I hope to see you soon.



[Please click here for other wonderful highlights.](#)



We're Back!

by Marie Lundstrom,
Choir Member

Singing “Go Lifted Up” at the memorial service for Gary Holthaus Sunday was a fine way to kick off our new choir year. It felt great! We’re rehearsing Thursdays from 6:30-8:00 pm, and we welcome new members any time.

The concert we had to postpone last spring because music director Megan Webb got slammed by Covid at the last minute will be on again Friday, September 23, at 7 pm. Songs by Stephen Sondheim, solos, instrumentals, and favorites are on the program. Come and enjoy!

Out of safety concerns, we are still wearing masks.

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.

Emotional and Spiritual Assurances

The Anchorage Unitarian Universalist Fellowship has enjoyed a long tradition of peace, fellowship, and civility within its congregation. Each Sunday we affirm our commitment to be a free and open Fellowship where differences are respected.

[Click here to read more.](#)

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AUUF Anti-Racism Team Corner

ALASKA BLACK CAUCUS COMMUNITY CONVERSATION:

Sunday - 08/28/2022

7:00 pm - 8:00 pm

Join the Alaska Black Caucus in a conversation about healing from racism, both individually and as a community.

[Register now](#)

=====

Recommended Reading by AUUF members:

Peggy Robinson writes: “I have a suggestion of a book we read in my book club in 2016, before it gained more notoriety. It is *Kindred*, by Octavia Butler. It was first published in 2003, long ahead of it’s time, has less than 300 pages and reads fairly quickly, except for dealing with the emotion in it. As there is more research about the intergenerational impacts of trauma, including DNA changes, I think this helps illustrate the effects of slavery as you are put into those situations as the character. As a follow-up to it, I’d suggest reading some of the DNA research, as well as health impacts that become multigenerational.”

“A Good Morning America 2021 Top Summer Read Pick,” The visionary author’s masterpiece pulls us—along with her Black female hero—through time to face the horrors of slavery and explore the impacts of racism, sexism, and white supremacy then and now.



Great news! There's still time to register for Beloved Conversations Virtual: Within Fall Term!

Within Registration deadline EXTENDED to Friday, September 2nd!

There is still time to get registered for the Fall Term of Within! Complete your registration

by Friday, September 2nd to be part of our Fall Term of either Gathering Our Selves (for Black, Indigenous, and People of Color) or Un/Learning for Liberation (for white people). For more details and head to [our website to learn more!](#)

Important Dates

Please note that the dates below could be subject to change due to unforeseen circumstances.

- Program Begins / First Lesson is published: September 12, 2022
- Fall Term 2022 Meaning Making Session Dates: TO BE ANNOUNCED

*No one will be turned away for a lack of funds. Please email JeKaren at belovedconversations@meadville.edu to request a full or half scholarship.

We hope you will join us, as we build a learning community grounded in UU values and committed to collective liberation! In Beloved Conversations, we are here to heal the impact of racism on our lives. Let's get free together.

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[Alaska Black Business Directory](#)

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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

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AUUF office hours are usually Monday-Thursday, 10 am -- 2 pm
Please call before coming.

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

Megan Webb, (she/ her) Music Director, AUUFmusic@gmail.com

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