

Today At Your Fellowship

Monday January 3, 2022

Intentional living is the art of making our own choices before others' choices make us.

Richie Norton



This Week @ AUUF

Find Zoom links here.

Monday 1/3/2022

Tuesday 1/4/2022

4:30 pm Forum Planning Meeting on Zoom 6:30 pm Mistakes and Miracles - Anti-Racism Book Club on Zoom 7-9 pm OWL Parent Orientation at AUUF

Wednesday 1/5/2022

6 pm Connections Team Meeting on Zoom 7 pm Afghan Refugee Team Meeting on Zoom 7 pm Building & Grounds Meeting on Zoom

Sunday 1/9/2022

9 am Virtual Forum on Zoom

Sustainable Alaska— Alaskanizing the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals With Joel Cladouhos

10:15 am RE Chalice Circle

(Online all the time)

11 am Sunday Worship on Zoom

Thursday 1/6/2022

6 pm Choir Rehearsal at AUUF 7 pm Healthy Congregation Team Meeting on Zoom

Friday 1/7/2022

12 pm Freethinkers on Zoom 6:30 pm "Mission: JOY" Zoom Watch Party at AUUF

Saturday 1/8/2022

12:30-3pm OWL Kick-off at AUUF

& Zoom Watch Party at AUUF The Essential Jesus, Part 2

4-7 pm Sunday Small Group Chalice Circle

12:30 pm Jr High OWL class

12:30 pm The Alliance on Zoom

1 pm COA M & M activity at AUUF

2:30 pm Worship Associates Meeting at AUUF

Half Portion for Social Action for January is <u>Refugee Assistance & Immigration Services</u>

Anti-racism Team Corner

Mistakes and Miracles - Anti-Racism Book Club meeting, Chapter 4 6:30 to 8:00 PM Tuesday, January 4, 2022

Join Zoom Meeting

Meeting ID: 960 6952 4601 Passcode: 218111

Dial by your location

- +1 346 248 7799 US
- +1 646 558 8656 US

Alaska Black Caucus: Community Conversation Sunday, January 9, 2022, at 7 PM – 8 PM

Join the Alaska Black Caucus to recognize the contributions of Anchorage Police Chief McCoy, who will retire in February 2022.

Register now

Walk and Talk with Rev. Lise

2 pm Tuesday, January 4, 2022

Join Rev. Lise for a walk and talk Tuesday, January 4, at 2 pm. Meet her at the Fellowship. If it's really cold, we'll decide by group consensus to stay inside and chat. Rev. Lise invites you to walk with her on the first and third Tuesdays of the month at 2 pm.



Freethinkers

12 pm Friday, Jan 7

School Prayer & Abortion

by Cari Sayre

In 1960, then-presidential candidate John F. Kennedy made a clear and profound statement about "an America where the separation of church and state is absolute..." As a Catholic, had he not been clear about that, he might not have been elected.

OWL (Our Whole Lives) News

Jr High OWL for 7th/8th grade begins this week. There is still space for participants who have been vaccinated.

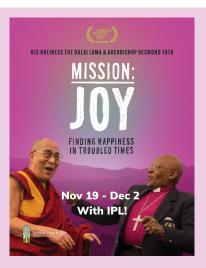
The group will meet 9 Sunday afternoons from Jan - April, with the Kick off on Saturday, Jan. 8th.

Parent orientation is January 4, 7-9.

To continue the OWL program in the coming years, we have a great need for more trained facilitators. Current leaders have been facilitating for many years, and while they enjoy it, it takes 4-6 leaders every time it's offered, which is twice most years. So it's necessary to have a deep leadership pool! There is a possibility that the training for facilitators will be offered online this winter. We will also be considering in-person training in Anchorage this summer.

This is always a great training, from past reports the last 3 times we have hosted trainings, both educational and fun! Please contact Rosene, DLRE for more info.

The Elementary intermediate OWL group was rescheduled from Fall to Spring and is currently full. It will resume in March.



"Mission: JOY" film screening and discussion

NEW DATE AND TIME: 7:00 pm Friday, January 7, 2022

Via Zoom, with Zoom watch party in the sanctuary at AUUF

Please join us for our rescheduled congregational screening and discussion of the film "Mission: JOY," starring the Dalai Lama and Archbishop Desmond Tutu! The film, which is being made available by Interfaith Power & Light, is described below. We'll have a zoom watch party in the sanctuary, but if you'd like to zoom in from elsewhere, please RSVP to Becca Bernard at rbernard.ak@gmail.com to receive the zoom link.

Deeply moving and laugh-out-loud funny, *Mission:* JOY is a documentary with unprecedented access to the unlikely friendship of two international icons who transcend religion: His Holiness the Dalai Lama and Archbishop Tutu. In their final joint mission, these self-described mischievous brothers give a master class in how to create joy in a world that was never easy for them. They offer neuroscience-backed wisdom to help each of us live with more joy, despite circumstances. Inspired by *New York Times* bestseller *The Book of Joy: Lasting Happiness in a Changing World*, the film showcases the exchange between these two Nobel Peace Prize winners that led to that book.



Half Portion for Social Action for January is Refugee Assistance & Immigration Services

Catholic Social Services Refugee Assistance & Immigration Services (RAIS) provides a

bridge for refugees (individuals who have had to flee their countries of origin due to the tragedies of persecution and war) from their former life experiences to the new skills required for success in the United States. Through a focus on economic self-sufficiency, community integration, and respect for unique cultures, history, and traditions, RAIS creates an environment of compassion and encouragement for refugees to flourish. RAIS accomplishes this through multiple programs, Reception & Placement which welcomes new refugee arrivals, comprehensive and intensive case management, education & employment services, health programming, and an agricultural program.

Currently, RAIS is serving over 500 clients from 31 different countries. Our caseload includes refugees, asylees, Cuban entrants, Afghan evacuees, and Victims of Trafficking. Since October 1, 2021, RAIS has welcomed 75 Afghans and 8 refugees. RAIS anticipates welcoming another 30 Afghans as well as more than 100 refugees in FY 22. Thanks to community support arrivals are being provided food, housing items, winter clothing, and more upon arrival. Monetary donations are supporting clients' immediate needs such as medication, rental assistance, work clothing and tools, and more. The best way to help is to reach out to Nick Leone, nleone@cssalaska.org who can share our greatest need at the time.

Thanks for supporting RAIS!

Go to anchorageuuf.org
Click on the Half-Portion note
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.

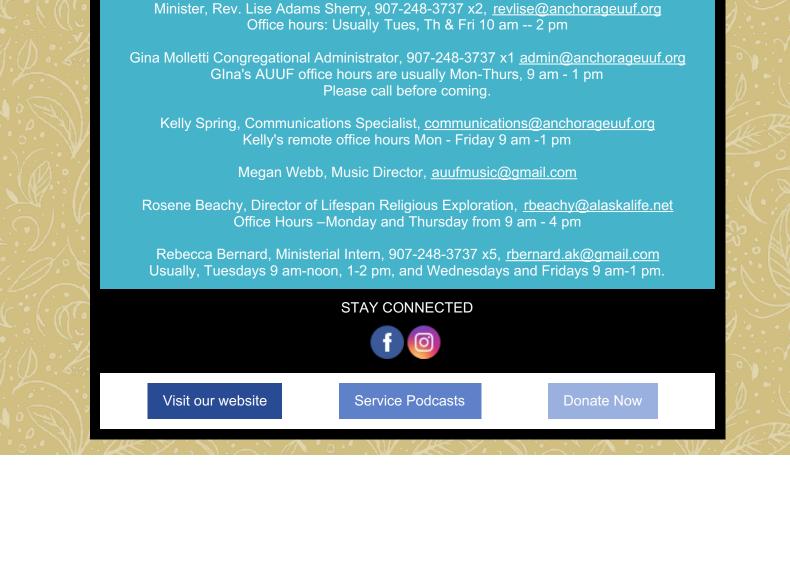
We hold each of us and all of this amazing world worthy of our attention, compassion and care.

Together we are Anchorage Unitarian

Universalist Fellowship.









Today At Your Fellowship

Friday January 7, 2022

This Week @ AUUF

Find Zoom links here.

Saturday 1/8/2022

OWL Kick-off postponed. Look for more information in your inboxes from Rosene.

Sunday 1/9/2022

9 am Virtual Forum on Zoom

10:15 am RE Chalice Circle (Online all the time)

11 am Sunday Worship on Zoom

4-7 pm Sunday Small Group Chalice Circle

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1 pm COA M & M activity on Zoom

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"Mission: JOY" film screening and discussion

7 pm Tonight Friday, January 7, 2022 Via Zoom ONLY

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Please RSVP to Becca Bernard at rbernard.ak@gmail.com to

HIS HOLINESS THE DALAI LAMA & ARCHBISHOP DESMOND TUTU

MISSION:

FINDING HAPPINESS
IN TROUBLED TIMES

Nov 19 - Dec 2

With IPL1

receive the zoom link.

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Sustainable Alaska—Alaskanizing the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals With Joel Cladouhos

Virtual Forum

9 am Sunday, January 9

Click here to join on Zoom.
Click here for Speaker's bio.

Preview of Coming Attractions for January Forums and All-Fellowship Meeting

We are looking forward to another year of great Forums in 2022. As always, the Forum Committee appreciates any suggestions you may have for either a specific speaker you'd like to hear from, or topic or issue you think would be interesting, informative, or entertaining—maybe even all three. You can send your ideas to the Forum Committee Chair John McKay at mckay@alaska.net.

We are kicking off 2022 on Sunday, **January 9**, with a presentation by **Joel Cladouhos** on "Sustainable Alaska—**Alaskanizing the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals."** The road to saving the world starts at your doorstep, right?

On January 16, we will hear another in our series of "reports from the front lines" of our local government. This time our speaker will be Anchorage School Board President Margo Bellamy. She will bring us up to date on many of the important and often vexing questions facing our School District—some issues unique to our community and some being confronted by school boards around the country.

On **January 23**, our speaker will be **Lance Wilber**. Lance has spoken to us before, when he was the Director of the Municipality's Office of Management and Budget. He was recently appointed to serve as **Director of Public Works**, the third-largest department in the city government (behind police and fire), and will talk to us about "**Snowplows**, **Buildings**, **Potholes and Bonds—How Our City Works**." If you want a chance to talk to the guy in charge of much of what impacts you as an Anchorage resident, here it is.

On the final Sunday of the month, **January 30th, Reverend Summer Albayati** will address an all-Fellowship gathering in a sermon about "Calling and Covenant: Fulfilling Our Sacred Promise." **This joint meeting of the Forum and the Worship Service will be at 10 a.m.** instead of at the usual times for either. This program is one of the steps in our process leading to a vote on asking, or calling, Rev. Lise Adams Sherry (who currently serves short-term as a contract minister) to continue serving AUUF indefinitely as its "settled" minister, instead of starting a new search to identify and call another person as our settled minister.

Rev. Summer will address: What does it mean to "call" a minister? How is this fulfilling a sacred promise? How is this connected to the mission and vision of our Unitarian Universalist faith? Rev. Summer will speak with the entire Fellowship to explore answers to these questions together in the spirit of love and help us prepare for this important decision. There will be an opportunity while Rev. Summer is still with us to engage in a brief Sermon Reflection about the topics she has addressed. This is a Zoom service only.

At the end of this Service when she has left for other commitments, there will be a brief "stretch break" **followed by a discussion hosted by the Ministerial Call Committee** for anyone who wants to ask questions about the call process at AUUF and anyone who wants to provide feedback to the Call Committee on what they hope for in our next settled minister.





The Essential Jesus, Part 2
With Rev. Lise Adams Sherry

Virtual Worship ZOOM ONLY

11 am Sunday, January 9

Click here to join on Zoom.

January Worship Services Zoom only for Jan.

Sunday Worship Services for the rest of January will be Zoom only. We're taking this precaution due to the quick and easy spread of Omicron. At this point, we're still hoping to have the first Sunday in February be an in-person service only and will let you know if that changes.

For the month of January, the theme is living with intention. It's both a challenge and a good reminder for us in these challenging times. Even though it's hard to make plans, and keep them, when everything is changing, it's still important that we try to do things we enjoy, and be in the moment with whatever we choose to do. This not only helps us to appreciate what we can do, it can also help us to lessen the worry about whatever comes next. I think we can all do with a little less worry, don't you?

Blessings, Rev. Lise

Jan. 9, 2022 Zoom only The Essential Jesus, Part 2 Rev. Lise Adams Sherry

This time around we'll discuss more of the life folks think Jesus lived, based on cultural information available from that time period. Would Jesus fit in the mold of someone who lived for the future, or for the now with intention?

Jan. 16, 2022, Zoom only Honoring MLK, Jr. Day Becca Bernard, Ministerial Intern

Join us as we celebrate Dr. King's legacy and revisit his important lessons for us all.

Jan. 23, 2022, Zoom Only Roe v. Wade: Sacred Bodies Rev. Lise Adams Sherry

48 years ago, the Supreme Court ruled on Roe v. Wade and it has continued to be a battle ever since. What is at stake as we wrestle with what is holy, what and when is life, and how to live with ourselves as a community as we make these decisions?



O Brother, Where Art Thou?

by Marie Lundstrom Stewardship Committee

Remember that loopy Coen Brothers movie of 20-some years ago, with George Clooney and other chain-gang screwballs

looking for buried treasure through the 1930s Deep South? It's too long ago for me to recall the finer details of that trip of fools, but the title haunts me, "O Brother, Where Art Thou?" That question is one we have to keep asking ourselves. It could just as well be, "O Neighbor, Where Art Thou?"

We, all of us, have to find and look after our brother, our neighbor. In AUUF, we try to do that with our half-portion in the offering baskets each Sunday going to local organizations trying to make some corner of our Alaskan world a little better. We try to look out for our neighbors through helping Afghan refugees get settled. We work with other faith groups in AFACT on community issues that impact all of us. We're making an effort to make matters better for AUUF members and for neighbors in the greater community.

That effort takes time, energy, and money. Especially money. It's pledge time, and there's no buried treasure out there, except what's buried in your bank accounts, home stashes, investment accounts, and credit cards. If you haven't pledged before, it's easy to set up an account for regular payments at your bank or credit union through Bill Pay. If you are already pledging, now is the time to increase it by five or ten percent, to account for inflation at the very least. If you need help deciding how much to pledge or to increase it, go to our AUUF website, click on our Stewardship logo and find charts and forms to make or increase a pledge.

Your pledge goes toward finding and helping our neighbors.

May 2021 Annual Meeting Minutes Draft

A draft of the AUUF May 2021 Annual Meeting Minutes is available at this link.

I will collect any suggested changes and incorporate them into the draft to be presented for approval at the upcoming May 2022 Annual Meeting. If you would like to make suggested changes, please contact James Dryden at 907-344-4995.

As a reminder, our next annual meeting will be May. Probably May 1, 2022

Thanks

Adult RE Opportunity: Spirit in Practice

Anchorage Unitarian Universalist Fellowship and Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Fairbanks Adult Religious Exploration Offering

Spirit in Practice
An Exploration of Spiritual Practices
With Becca Bernard, Ministerial Intern

8 Wednesdays in Winter/Spring 2022, 7-8:30pm
January 26, February 9, 23, March 9, 23, April 13, 27, May 11
Via Zoom and (possibly) in-person at AUUF • 15 participants maximum

Spirit in Practice was created to help Unitarian Universalists develop regular disciplines, or practices, of the spirit—practices that help us connect with the sacred ground of our being, however we understand it. Spirit in Practice affirms religious diversity while seeking unity in our communal quest for meaning and wholeness. Drawing on a model developed by the Zen Mountain Monastery in Mount Tremper, New York, for the training of its students, Spirit in Practice focuses on eight spheres of holistic and wholehearted spiritual practices: personal, communal, mind, body, soul, life, and justice practices, as well as spiritual partnerships.

This program will:

- Nurture a deepening spiritual life and spiritual centeredness
- Consider the value of spiritual practice, in any variety of forms, as a means to deepen faith and enhance the quality of everyday living
- Cultivate individual and communal spiritual practices
- Develop participants' alertness to the wonder and mystery of existence
- Encourage experiences of the sacred through worship, ritual, wisdom of faith traditions, and spiritual disciplines
- Explore possibilities for deepening experiences of spirituality in the context of a Unitarian Universalist congregation

Fireside Chats

Connecting During COVID: Fireside Chat for Adults on Zoom

Your AUUF Connections Team invites you to our monthly Fireside Chat (Tea and Toddies!) -- for some friendly, agenda-free conversation on Zoom. Join us with your favorite beverage as we share what you and your fellow UUs have been up to and see what their faces look like below the nose! You're welcome to attend for the entire time period or drop in whenever you want for as long as you want.

Monthly Connections on Zoom

Jan. 12, 6:30-8:00 pm for ages 18 and up

We'll offer this monthly on the second Wednesdays until further notice.

Join Zoom Meeting

Meeting ID: 965 3453 7013

Passcode: 264160

Dial by your location +1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

+1 669 900 9128 US (San Jose)

For more information, email connections@auuf.org

Finding Your Way into Fellowship class

Feb 8th, 15th, 22nd / Connections Team

Tuesdays Feb 8th, 15th, and 22nd from 6-8 pm will be the times for our next session of Finding Your Way into Fellowship (online using Zoom). These 3 days give folks time to really learn about UU, AUUF, and how it fits into their own spiritual journey. If you are wanting to become a member of AUUF or just want to learn a whole lot more about AUUF, this is for you!

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



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Thanks for supporting RAIS!

Click on the Half-Portion note at the bottom of the home page. Enter your donation under "Half-Portion for Social Action"

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We hold each of us and all of this amazing world worthy of our attention, compassion and care.

Together we are Anchorage Unitarian
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Anchorage Unitarian Universalist Fellowship | (907) 248-3737 Minister, Rev. Lise Adams Sherry, 907-248-3737 x2, revlise@anchorageuuf.org Office hours: Usually Tues, Th & Fri 10 am -- 2 pm

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

Kelly Spring, Communications Specialist, communications@anchorageuuf.org
Kelly's remote office hours Mon - Friday 9 am -1 pm

Megan Webb, Music Director, auufmusic@gmail.com

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

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

STAY CONNECTED

Donate Now



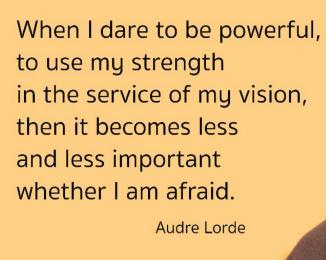
Visit our website Service Podcasts





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Monday January 10, 2022



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Wednesday 1/12/2022 6 pm Safer Congregation Team Meeting 6:30 pm Fireside Chats

Thursday 1/13/2022 5:30 pm Board Agenda Setting Meeting on Zoom

Saturday 1/15/2022

11:30 am Macon Roberts' Memorial Service on Zoom & at AUUF

Sunday 1/16/2022

9 am Virtual Forum on Zoom A Report from the Front Lines of the School Board With Anchorage School Board President Margo Bellamy 6 pm Choir Rehearsal on Zoom

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Your Half-Portion Beneficence

AUUF's Half-Portion for Social Justice is a reflection of our commitment to our community. Your Sunday offerings sent \$893.50 to STAR in November and \$893 to FFCA in December. CSS' Refugee Assistance and Immigration Services program will be the recipient of your January Half-Portion donations.

Standing Together Against Rape, STAR, has been providing support to victims of sexual assault free-of-charge since 1978. All Alaskans have been touched by its prevention and education programs aimed at reducing the risk of harm for everyone. Our Fellowship has been supporting STAR for many years.

Facing Foster Care in Alaska, FFCA, was created by individuals who grew up in Alaska's foster care system with intimate knowledge of its inadequacies. FFCA is a lifeline for foster youth and alumni. As a statewide network of current and former foster youth, FFCA leads efforts in advocacy, training, and peer support to improve the lives of thousands of foster youth across Alaska. FFCA empowers current and former foster youth to share their lived-expertise to be heard in key decisions affecting children and families. This is FFCA's first year as a recipient of our Fellowships Half-Portion donation.

Refugee Assistance and Immigration Services is covered elsewhere in this TAYF.

Our nearly Half Empty Cup no longer overflows from your beneficence as your donations to our Sunday Half-Portion offerings are suffering from long-COVID-fatigue. Your support for our social justice ministry, our Minister's Caring Fund, and a bit of our operating budget is now 1/2 of what it was in 2019.

Half-Portion distributions to our social justice partners averaged \$1,666/month in FY19;

\$880 in FY20; \$841 in FY21. And here we are, one-half of the way through FY22, currently averaging **\$778/month**.

The other 50% of our Half Portion donations helps support our ongoing AUUF programs expenses.

You may make Half-Portion donations electronically through our website or call the office, or mail a check, or put a check or cash in our offering basket or in one of our black mailboxes, whichever is most convenient for you. Any amount is welcome! Thank you so much for your generous support!

Who wants to bet that the social justice organizations you voted to support can tell that our cup is half-empty even as they thank us for your "generosity"?

Please follow this link to <u>Half-Portion donation</u>. Do it <u>in addition to your Pledge</u>. By doing both you will know that even though COVID *et al* has made us all world-weary you are still supporting AUUF's social justice ministry in our community. (And if you use EFT instead of your credit card, we save on fees.)

May our cup overfloweth in 2022. May it be so. Thank you and Shalom.

-Sid McCausland, AUUF Board Treasureer

Fireside Chats

Connecting During COVID: Fireside Chat for Adults on Zoom

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Passcode: 264160

Dial by your location +1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

+1 669 900 9128 US (San Jose)

For more information, email connections@auuf.org

Freethinkers

12 pm Friday, Jan 14, 2022

The final chapter of Freethinkers, A History of American Secularism, by Susan Jacoby began with a hard look at the Supreme Court, including the role and highly religious views of the late Antonin Scalia, leading to lively discussion about the court's current status and ways it could be made less political/more balanced.

Click here to read the entire article.

Finding Your Way into Fellowship class

Feb 8th, 15th, 22nd / Connections Team

Tuesdays Feb 8th, 15th, and 22nd from 6-8 pm will be the times for our next session of Finding Your Way into Fellowship (online using Zoom). These 3 days give folks time to really learn about UU, AUUF, and how it fits into their own spiritual journey. If you are wanting to become a member of AUUF or just want to learn a whole lot more about AUUF, this is for you!

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Celebration of Life for Macon Roberts

The Celebration of Life for Macon Roberts, who died in November, will be Saturday, January 15, 2022, at 11:30 am at AUUF. This will be a hybrid service--both on Zoom and in-person. The family has requested that only those who have been vaccinated and wear masks, come in person. Additionally, we will practice distancing in the Sanctuary, so there will be limited seating. The Zoom link is on the AUUF website calendar.



Joy & Sorrows

From Sunday Worship January 9

Joan Frankevich: Joy this morning - watching a bird at the feeder that was barely visible in the early dawn light.

Jon, Andrea, and Bodhi: Joy: my daughter is back after a 3 week trip to Florida. She was delayed due to canceled flights but made it ok. We missed her so much. Concern: that doctors

and medical staff are overwhelmed, tired, understaffed, out sick with covid or in quarantine for being in close contact, and just need support and encouragement.

From Judy Engh: Husband recovering from knee replacement surgery. So far so good.

Bonnie Moore: Joy of having the ability to replace our 30-year-old furnace and stay warm, while being mindful that this is not available to all in our community.



O Brother, Where Art Thou?

by Marie Lundstrom Stewardship Committee

Remember that loopy Coen Brothers movie of 20-some years ago, with George Clooney and other chain-gang screwballs

looking for buried treasure through the 1930s Deep South? It's too long ago for me to recall the finer details of that trip of fools, but the title haunts me, "O Brother, Where Art Thou?" That question is one we have to keep asking ourselves. It could just as well be, "O Neighbor, Where Art Thou?"

We, all of us, have to find and look after our brother, our neighbor. In AUUF, we try to do that with our half-portion in the offering baskets each Sunday going to local organizations trying to make some corner of our Alaskan world a little better. We try to look out for our neighbors through helping Afghan refugees get settled. We work with other faith groups in AFACT on community issues that impact all of us. We're making an effort to make matters better for AUUF members and for neighbors in the greater community.

That effort takes time, energy, and money. Especially money. It's pledge time, and there's no buried treasure out there, except what's buried in your bank accounts, home stashes, investment accounts, and credit cards. If you haven't pledged before, it's easy to set up an account for regular payments at your bank or credit union through Bill Pay. If you are already pledging, now is the time to increase it by five or ten percent, to account for

inflation at the very least. If you need help deciding how much to pledge or to increase it, go to our AUUF website, click on our Stewardship logo and find charts and forms to make or increase a pledge.

Your pledge goes toward finding and helping our neighbors.

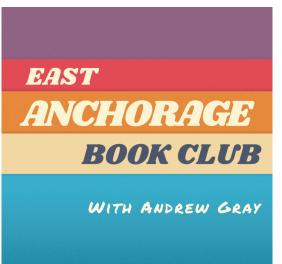
May 2021 Annual Meeting Minutes Draft

A draft of the AUUF May 2021 Annual Meeting Minutes is available at this link.

I will collect any suggested changes and incorporate them into the draft to be presented for approval at the upcoming May 2022 Annual Meeting. If you would like to make suggested changes, please contact James Dryden at 907-344-4995.

As a reminder, our next annual meeting will be in May. Probably May 1, 2022

Thanks



East Anchorage Book Club Podcast Features AUUF Members

Victor Fischer and Judith Anderegg in Episode 6

Click here to have a listen.

Adult RE Opportunity: Spirit in Practice

Anchorage Unitarian Universalist Fellowship and Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Fairbanks Adult Religious Exploration Offering

Spirit in Practice
An Exploration of Spiritual Practices
With Becca Bernard, Ministerial Intern

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January 26, February 9, 23, March 9, 23, April 13, 27, May 11
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Currently, RAIS is serving over 500 clients from 31 different countries. Our caseload includes refugees, asylees, Cuban entrants, Afghan evacuees, and Victims of Trafficking. Since October 1, 2021, RAIS has welcomed 75 Afghans and 8 refugees. RAIS anticipates welcoming another 30 Afghans as well as more than 100 refugees in FY 22. Thanks to community support arrivals are being provided food, housing items, winter clothing, and more upon arrival. Monetary donations are supporting clients' immediate needs such as medication, rental assistance, work clothing and tools, and more. The best way to help is to reach out to Nick Leone, nleone@cssalaska.org who can share our greatest need at the time.

Thanks for supporting RAIS!

Go to anchorageuuf.org
Click on the Half-Portion note
at the bottom of the home page.
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Together we are Anchorage Unitarian
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Kelly Spring, Communications Specialist, communications@anchorageuuf.org
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Megan Webb, Music Director, auufmusic@gmail.com

Rosene Beachy, Director of Lifespan Religious Exploration, rbeachy@alaskalife.net
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Rebecca Bernard, Ministerial Intern, 907-248-3737 x5, rbernard.ak@gmail.com Usually, Tuesdays 9 am-noon, 1-2 pm, and Wednesdays and Fridays 9 am-1 pm.

STAY CONNECTED





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Service Podcasts

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Today At Your Fellowship

Friday January 14, 2022

This Week @ AUUF

Find Zoom links here.

Saturday 1/15/2022

11:30 am Macon Roberts' Memorial Service on Zoom & at AUUF

Half Portion for Social Action for January is Refugee Assistance & Immigration Services

AUUF will be closed on Monday, Jan 17 for Martin Luther King Jr. Day. We will publish the next TAYF on Tuesday, Jan 18th.

Sunday 1/16/2022

9 am Virtual Forum on Zoom

10:15 am RE Chalice Circle (Online all the time)

11 am Sunday Worship on Zoom 2-4 pm Worship Associate Meeting & AV Workshop at AUUF

4-7 pm Sunday Small Group Chalice Circle

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A Report from the Front Lines of the School Board
With Anchorage School Board President Margo Bellamy

Virtual Forum

9 am Sunday, January 16

This Sunday we will hear another speaker in our series of "reports from the front lines" of our local government. This time our speaker will be **Anchorage School Board President Margo Bellamy.** She will bring us up to date on many of the important and often vexing questions facing our School District—some issues unique to our community and some being confronted by school boards around the country.

Click here to join on Zoom. Click here for Speaker's bio.





Honoring MLK, Jr. Day Becca Bernard, Ministerial Intern

Virtual Worship

11 am Sunday, January 16

Honoring Martin Luther King Jr. Day: Defending Democracy

Join us as we honor Dr. King's legacy of breathing life into our nation's democratic ideals, and as we reflect on the state of our democracy today.

Our Ministerial Call Committee Wants to Hear from You!

AUUF's ministry has been in transition -- without a called minister -- for four years now, since Rev. Gary Holthaus left in December 2017. Rev. Shelley Page served for two and a half years as an interim minister (January 2018 - June 2020). Rev. Lise Sherry has served as a contract minister since August 2020.

The AUUF Board has decided that now is a good time for the congregation to consider whether to call Rev. Lise to continue serving AUUF as its called minister.

The Board appointed our Ministerial Call Committee (MCC) to engage with the AUUF membership to determine whether the membership wants to call Rev. Lise.

Our MCC is soliciting your views, and is available to answer your questions. <u>This questionnaire</u> asks how you'd like to be part of the conversation -- potentially at a meeting, in a one-on-one listening session, electronically, or perhaps in more than one way. Please answer the questionnaire as soon as you can.

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Your input (which will be kept confidential) will be provided in summary form to the Board and to Rev. Lise, and will help them decide whether to hold a congregational meeting in March 2022 at which the congregation would be asked to vote on whether to call Rev. Lise.

Please get involved and be part of the conversation. Let us hear from you soon!

Dennis Arashiro, John Blaine, George Bryson, Andrew Gray, Mara Hill, Cady Lynn O'Brien, Susan Orlansky, Carma Reed, Cari Sayre



The Spirit of Martin Luther King Jr

by Marie Lundstrom Stewardship Committee

Martin Luther King Jr worked for civil rights and social justice for all people in his remarkable lifetime. We celebrate his life because of what he

did to help all folks achieve respect and equal treatment in the laws and in community.

AUUF follows the spirit of King's life and work in our efforts toward social justice in our greater community. Our **Half Portion for Social Action** program, in which a nonprofit, charitable organization is chosen each month to receive half our Sunday offerings, is, as far as I know, unique in Anchorage. And from what I've been told about other UU churches generally, it's a rarity among them. We can celebrate that!

Through our Social Action Council, teams work on Pride Fest, Project Homeless Connect, refugee assistance, food insecurity, racism, gender inequality, and other issues. Our people are out there trying to make the world better. Keeping AUUF going in the realm of social justice takes the dedication of time and talent by our members and friends. It takes

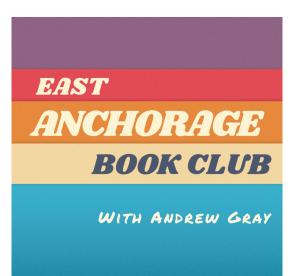
money, too. **The 2022 Stewardship Campaign** to encourage pledging more will get into high gear on February 1, with updated pledge forms, personal letters, more short essays in TAYF, and mini-videos during services. As Martin Luther King Jr did, we want to continue working for social change. It's important.

Finding Your Way into Fellowship class

Feb 8th, 15th, 22nd / Connections Team

Tuesdays Feb 8th, 15th, and 22nd from 6-8 pm will be the times for our next session of Finding Your Way into Fellowship (online using Zoom). These 3 days give folks time to really learn about UU, AUUF, and how it fits into their own spiritual journey. If you are wanting to become a member of AUUF or just want to learn a whole lot more about AUUF, this is for you!

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Refugee Voices Panel- Catholic Social Services Alaska

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Today At Your Fellowship

Tuesday January 18, 2022

I've been to the mountaintop...
I've looked over and I've seen
the promised land.
I may not get there with you.
But I want you to know tonight
that we as a people
will get to the promised land.

Martin Luther King Jr.

This Week @ AUUF

Find Zoom links here.

Monday 1/17/2022

Tuesday 1/18/2022

7 pm Stewardship Training

Wednesday 1/19/2022

6:30 pm Board of Directors Meeting on Zoom

Thursday 1/20/2022

5:30 pm Anti-Racism Team on Zoom6 pm Choir Rehearsal on Zoom6:30 pm Ministerial Call Committee: Listening

Saturday 1/22/2022

Sunday 1/23/2022

9 am Virtual Forum on Zoom

Snowplows, Buildings, Potholes and Bonds—How Our City Works With Anchorage Public Works Director, Lance Wilber

10:15 am RE Chalice Circle

Session on Proposed Call for a Settled Minister

Friday 1/21/2022

12 pm Freethinkers on Zoom

Half Portion for Social Action for January is Refugee Assistance & Immigration Services

(Online all the time)

11 am Sunday Worship on Zoom
Roe v. Wade: Sacred Bodies

Roe v. Wade: Sacred Bodies With Rev. Lise Adams Sherry

4-7 pm Sunday Small Group Chalice Circle

February Half Portion for Social Action: Payment in lieu of Taxes (PILOT)

By Dennis Arashiro

"PILOT is a moral issue."

- Fred Hillman

When I first joined the Fellowship, I had no idea why we were making payment in lieu of taxes to the Municipality of Anchorage. It was only after listening to long-term member Fred Hillman did I understand the moral underpinnings of our action. Let's look at what they are:

We owe for services rendered--not someone else.

The Fellowship benefits from the many services provided by the Municipality of Anchorage, which relies on property taxes to do so. When we do not pay for street maintenance to allow access to our property and the fire and police departments to protect our building and grounds, other property owners have to pay in our stead.

Separation of church and state

Exempting religious entities from taxation is government support for religion. The separation of church and state requires an end to this.

Take from the poor and give to the rich.

When church buildings and grounds are exempt from taxation, churches benefit more the richer they are. There are churches too poor to own their own property and pay property tax indirectly through rent payments to their landlords. Reverse Robin Hood.

As long as we own our building and grounds and the Municipality relies on property taxes to serve us, we are under the moral imperative to make payment in lieu of taxes. It does not matter that no other church follows our example. It only matters that we follow our own example. By contributing to the Half Portion this month.

Safer Congregation Team - Guidebook

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. This month's excerpt concludes the previous discussion of first aid.

Click here to read the entire article.

Freethinkers

12 pm, Friday, Jan 21, 2022

by Cari Sayre

Last week we discussed some AUUF issues rather than a book. George Bryson and I, from the Ministerial Call Committee (MCC), asked questions to learn how folks feel about the idea of calling Rev. Lise to be the settled minister. It was wonderful to hear the history of how we all came to be part of this fellowship...

Click here to read the entire article.

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Ministerial Call Committee Listening Session

6:30-7:30 pm Thursday, January 20

You don't have to stay for the whole session.

Join Zoom Meeting

Meeting ID: 839 0384 2110

Passcode: 238361 Dial by your location +1 346 248 7799 +1 253 215 8782

Zoom links also on the calendar.

Finding Your Way into Fellowship class

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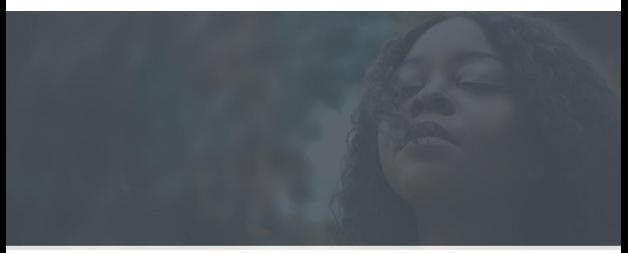


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Virtual Forum on Zoom

9 am Sunday, January 23

Click here to join on Zoom. Click here for Speaker's Bio.





Roe v. Wade: Sacred Bodies With Rev. Lise Adams Sherry

Virtual Worship on Zoom

11 am Sunday, January 23

Click here to join on Zoom.

AUUF will conduct Sunday Worship on Zoom through February.

Please stay safe everyone! We'll keep you posted when things change.

Joint Worship & Forum Service

Calling and Covenant: Fulfilling Our Sacred Promise

10 am Sunday, January 30 Speaker: Rev. Summer Albayati Click here to read Speaker's bio.

Next Sunday, January 30, the Forum and Worship Service will be combined into one service at 10 am. Rev. Summer Albayati will be our guest speaker and will speak on: Calling and Covenant: Fulfilling Our Sacred Promise. We have invited her to speak as part of our discernment process on whether to call Rev. Lise as our settled minister. We hope as many of you as possible can attend!

Ministerial Call Committee upcoming sessions on Zoom

Ministerial Call Committee Question & Answer Session with Rev. Lise on Zoom 1 pm Sunday, January 23

Click here to find the Zoom Meeting on the calendar.

Joint Meeting of the Forum & Worship Service

10 am Sunday, January 30, 2022 Calling and Covenant: Fulfilling Our Sacred Promise Speaker: Rev. Summer Albayati Click here to read more.

Ministerial Call Committee Listening Session immediately after the joint service, on the same Zoom link.

Our Ministerial Call Committee Wants to Hear from You!

We've heard from over 55 Fellowship members so far, through listening sessions and the survey...so we're on track! Conversations and comments have been thoughtful and enlightening...and we'd like to hear from everyone.

If you haven't had a chance to answer the questions in the questionnaire about what draws you to AUUF and what you hope to see in a new called minister, you can answer the questions now – or you can come to the final Listening Session that the MCC has scheduled, which will begin immediately after the joint service ends on January 30. (The same Zoom link that works for the service will get you into the Listening Service.)

On Sunday, January 23, from 1-2 pm, the MCC will host an informal meeting, where Rev. Lise will be available to answer questions about herself and her views on ministry at AUUF. (Get the Zoom link from the AUUF calendar on the webpage.)

January 30 will be a special joint program of the forum and worship service, with special guest speaker Rev. Summer Albayati, who will speak about what it means for a congregation to call a minister.

Please get involved and be part of the conversation. Let us hear from you soon!

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January 26, February 9, 23, March 9, 23, April 13, 27, May 11
Via Zoom and (possibly) in-person at AUUF * 15 participants maximum

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This program will:

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- Consider the value of spiritual practice, in any variety of forms, as a means to deepen faith and enhance the quality of everyday living
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- Encourage experiences of the sacred through worship, ritual, the wisdom of faith traditions, and spiritual disciplines
- Explore possibilities for deepening experiences of spirituality in the context of a Unitarian Universalist congregation

For questions or to register, email Becca at rbernard.ak@gmail.com.



We Are All Stewards

by Marie Lundstrom Stewardship Committee

What is a steward? Dictionaries give a half dozen or more definitions, but they all boil down to "taking care of" something

or someone. Go back a thousand years to Medieval England, and you'd find that a steward was the person who managed a big estate—he hired and fired, supervised servants and tenant farmers, collected and paid taxes, did the accounts, and kept a sharp eye on day-to-day operations. He "took care of matters for the owner—the lord. We are a long way from feudal times, but the idea of a steward as a person who oversees and protects, "takes care of," something worth caring for and preserving is very much still with us. We members are stewards of something we value—our Fellowship. Our Stewardship Committee is just eight or ten people who keep reminding all of the rest of us that in order to preserve and protect our spiritual home, we need to support it with our Time, our Talents, and most of all, in this capitalistic world, our Treasure—money, plain and simple.

We aren't tenant farmers or servants—we are stewards, all of us. We have a responsibility to do the best we can to take care of what is important to us—our Fellowship. The best way to do that "taking care of" is through pledging a consistent amount of money month by month. You'll be hearing more from us about how to do that with updated pledge forms, how to use Bill Pay, how to figure out what is fair to pledge, how your money is used, how AUUF budgets, and how important each pledge is. We are all stewards of what we value —our Fellowship.



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Safer Congregation Team – Guidebook

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. This month's excerpt concludes the previous discussion of first aid.

Click here to read the entire article.

Anti-Racism Corner

COMMUNITY CONVERSATION: Racism Is a Public Health Crisis, January 30, 2022. 7:00-8:00PM

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Feb 8th, 15th, 22nd / Connections Team

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The best way to help is to reach out to Nick Leone, <u>nleone@cssalaska.org</u> who can share our greatest need at the time. Thanks for supporting RAIS!

Go to anchorageuuf.org
Click on the Half-Portion note
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.





Gina Molletti Congregational Administrator, 907-248-3737 x1 <u>admin@anchorageuuf.org</u>
Glna's AUUF office hours are usually Mon-Thurs, 9 am - 1 pm
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Rebecca Bernard, Ministerial Intern, 907-248-3737 x5, rbernard.ak@gmail.com Usually, Tuesdays 9 am-noon, 1-2 pm, and Wednesdays and Fridays 9 am-1 pm.

STAY CONNECTED

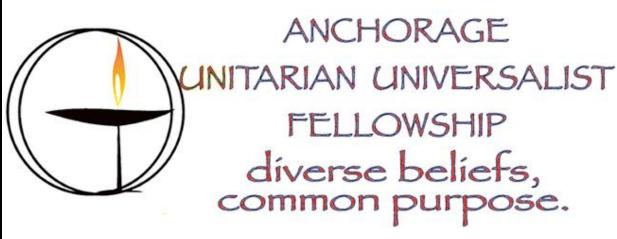




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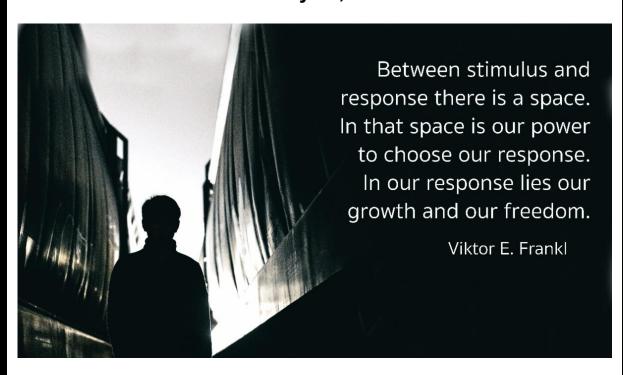
Donate Now



Today At Your Fellowship

Monday

January 24, 2022



This Week @ AUUF

Find Zoom links here.

Monday 1/24/22

Tuesday 1/25/22 6-8 pm Program Council on Zoom

Wednesday 1/26/22 6:30 pm RE Spirit In Practice

Thursday 1/27/22
6-8 pm Choir Rehearsal on Zoom
6:30 pm Pastoral Care Team Meeting on Zoom

Friday 1/28/22

Saturday 1/29/2022

Sunday 1/30/2022

10 am Joint Meeting of The Forum & Worship Service

10:15 am RE Chalice Circle (Online all the time)

Ministerial Call Committee Listening Session immediately after the joint service, on the same Zoom link.

4-7 pm Sunday Small Group Chalice Circle

Half Portion for Social Action for January is <u>Refugee Assistance & Immigration Services</u>

Rev. Lise Away

Rev. Lise will be out of town attending a minister's meeting from January 30-Feb. 6, at which time she will be periodically available via email. After that, she's taking a week of vacation and will not be available except for major emergencies until Feb. 13. In her absence, please contact our ministerial intern, Rebecca Bernard, with any questions or pastoral situations at 907.244.3988.

Minister's Message

Dear Ones,

Hopefully, many of you saw the announcement on Sunday that worship is via Zoom only through February. Sigh. In consultation with the rest of our staff, the worship team, and the Board we finalized this decision at the Board meeting Wednesday night. The Forum will continue online as well. And of course, it's because of Omicron, the latest development of our pandemic.

"Our pandemic." It sounds almost loving, doesn't it? At least in my goofy frame of mind right now. Thinking this reminds me of a friend who named her cancerous tumor. She didn't want to keep feeling angry and angsty about her condition so she named him so they could at least become friendly, if not friends, and work out some sort of détente. It seemed to work for several years—her very late-stage cancer and she lived together much longer than expected. This story isn't meant to imply that all we have to do is reframe our situation and everything will work out magically; it's simply an example of one way to cope that works for some people. Others of us ramp up our exercise routine, binge-watch Netflix, talk more to our friends, dance in our kitchen. Hopefully, many of us have found ways to continue to make ourselves feel good during this very, very challenging time.

But sometimes, despite our best efforts, nothing seems to work and we find ourselves sinking more deeply into our malaise, into the incomprehensible sameness of everything. Or we watch a loved one who simply stops thriving. It's nobody's fault—sometimes our brain chemistry just changes, or maybe we were born with a genetic tendency for depression or other mental illness. Years ago, I suffered from post-partum depression. Unfortunately, like many folks, I had to fight through the stigma of mental illness to regain my health. Fortunately, with the compassion of loved ones and the medical field, I got help.

Years ago, our son was diagnosed with type 1 diabetes. We confirmed our fears by taking him to the emergency room in the middle of the night. As we stayed with him as they went through the process of slowly lowering his incredibly high blood sugar, I was racked with guilt. What could I have done differently? Did I miss something? Was I a bad parent? Our nurse looked me straight in the eyes and said with sympathy and confidence, "This is not your fault. There is nothing you could have done to prevent this." Our nurse threw me a lifeline, one which I've kept tucked in my back pocket and brought out for myself, and others when needed. Now, my son is healthy and thriving, using the medical tools available to treat his diabetes. Remember, there are medical tools available for treating mental illness, too.

All of this is to say that if you're suffering, I hope you can reach out to a doctor, a friend, or me, and ask for help. Showing our vulnerability can be hard, but it can help us to get better, and stronger. It also allows us to bring the challenge of mental illness out into the open, to make it more commonplace and acceptable. If we work as a community to accept and help those with mental illness, we will all benefit. Here are some places to reach out to if you don't feel you can share your concerns with someone you know just yet:

American Foundations for Suicide Prevention: Call 800-273-8255 or text TALK to 741741

National Alliance for Mental Illness (NAMI)

Please remember You. Are. Loved. Blessings, Rev. Lise

AUUF will conduct Virtual Forum & Sunday Worship on Zoom through February.

Please stay safe everyone! We'll keep you posted when things change.

Joint Worship & Forum Service

10 am -Please note the change in time.

Sunday, January 30

Calling and Covenant: Fulfilling Our Sacred Promise Speaker: Rev. Summer Albayati Click here to read Speaker's bio.

Next Sunday, January 30, the Forum and Worship Service will be combined into one service at 10 am. Rev. Summer Albayati will be our guest speaker and will speak on: Calling and Covenant: Fulfilling Our Sacred Promise. We have invited her to speak as part of our discernment process on whether to call Rev. Lise as our settled minister. We hope as many of you as possible can attend!

Ministerial Call Committee upcoming sessions on Zoom

Joint Meeting of the Forum & Worship Service 10 am Sunday, January 30, 2022

Ministerial Call Committee Listening Session immediately after the joint service, on the same Zoom link.

Our Ministerial Call Committee Wants to Hear from You!

We've heard from over 55 Fellowship members so far, through listening sessions and the survey...so we're on track! Conversations and comments have been thoughtful and enlightening...and we'd like to hear from everyone.

If you haven't had a chance to answer the questions in the questionnaire about what draws you to AUUF and what you hope to see in a new called minister, you can answer the questions now – or you can come to the final Listening Session that the MCC has scheduled, which will begin immediately after the joint service ends on January 30. (The same Zoom link that works for the service will get you into the Listening Service.)

On Sunday, January 23, from 1-2 pm, the MCC will host an informal meeting, where Rev. Lise will be available to answer questions about herself and her views on ministry at AUUF. (Get the Zoom link from the AUUF calendar on the webpage.)

January 30 will be a special joint program of the forum and worship service, with special

guest speaker Rev. Summer Albayati, who will speak about what it means for a congregation to call a minister.

Please get involved and be part of the conversation. Let us hear from you soon!

Dennis Arashiro, John Blaine, George Bryson, Andrew Gray, Mara Hill, Cady Lynn O'Brien, Susan Orlansky, Carma Reed, Cari Sayre

Freethinkers

12 Noon, Friday, January 28, 2022

Pay Attention

by Cari Sayre

"History does not repeat, but it does instruct." The first sentence of the Prologue in Timothy Snyder's book, On Tyranny, Twenty Lessons from the Twentieth Century speaks volumes.

Click here to read the entire article.

Tsumani Relief info from Amerika Garcia Grewal

Rotary Disaster Relief - this is my district and I've helped distribute aid from this. We use our own funds for transportation and delivery, your funds go 100% to aid Click here to donate.

Adult RE Opportunity: Spirit in Practice- starting January 26

Anchorage Unitarian Universalist Fellowship and Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Fairbanks Adult Religious Exploration Offering

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Anchorage Unitarian Universalist Fellowship | (907) 248-3737 Minister, Rev. Lise Adams Sherry, 907-248-3737 x2, revlise@anchorageuuf.org Office hours: Usually Tues, Th & Fri 10 am -- 2 pm

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Service Podcasts

Donate Now



ANCHORAGE INITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP diverse beliefs,

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January 28, 2022

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Click here to read the entire article.



News from Religious Exploration

From Rosene Beachy

We are thrilled that many of you have participated in events at the Fellowship this year. We had been rejoicing about our first Sunday in-person services only to have our joy muted for a

time! Zoom continues! The Children's Chalice Circle is live most Sundays at 10:15 am. Joint service Sundays (3 coming up) will be pre-recorded. And all are posted on the RE Facebook group page. If you are a family with registered kids and you want to join the page contact Rosene or find us online!

This has been a busier year! From Peace Camp until this winter, we have hadover **70 children and youth** participating in RE programming. Besides the RE Elementary Chalice Circles, both Zoom and live, we have Coming of Age happening for 8-9th graders. We have had a High School OWL and are about to start a Jr High and Intermediate OWL as soon as we get back to in-person events. The Jr High youth are meeting once a month for activities either indoors or out. We look forward to seeing you all – hopefully soon.



-Calling all youth - Junior and Senior - Ready for a fun outdoor adventure with your UU friends - 2-4 pm Saturday, February 12 Join in the fun on Saturday, February 12 at Kincaid Chalet. Bring hot drinks or snacks to share if you wish!



-And another sledding event for the younger set or any age!! 1-3:00 pm Saturday, February 19

At Sunset Park (600 Vine Ave in Government Hill)

This is a wide, gentle, sledding hill with easy and steeper grades.



Register now! –AUUF Summer Camp – July 18 –22, 2022 !!

As you start making summer plans – Carve out a week of UU fun for your child who has completed $K-7^{\text{th}}$ grade. Mark your calendar for our 7^{th} annual "Peace Camp"!

Our UU summer Peace camp will be full of fun with friends. There will be new activities and workshops as well as some golden oldies! Yes, the bicycle rides will be on again, that seems to be a favorite with kids of all ages. Join us for a very fun week.

We will be outdoors again because that was so much fun! We will need several teen Camp Counselors, and also Parent volunteers for in-person camp. Check your mailbox, registration forms were mailed. If you did not receive one, they will be available on the RE Facebook page and AUUF website.



Ready... Set ... Go!

by Marie Lundstrom Stewardship Committee

Bang! That was the starting shot you just heard! The 2022 AUUF Pledge Drive is now hurtling at top speed to get everyone pledged by February 14. All AUUF households will be contacted by email with an

updated pledge form to fill out and return ASAP. By now, you should have a good idea of

how much you can increase your previous pledge; but if not, on the AUUF website, click on our Stewardship logo, then the Fair Share button for a contribution guide. Also, if you prefer a paper pledge form, you will find one there to download, fill out by hand, and mail-in.

Action now is crucial! Three-fourths of AUUF's budget is from pledges. Your Time and Talents are certainly important and appreciated, but your Treasure—money—is essential for all the things about the Fellowship you value—the Forum, Worship Services, choir, a minister, TAYF, administrator, music director, clean floors and bathrooms, communications, furnace, sound system, Zoom sessions, Freethinkers, Fall Frolic, Peace Camp, meeting space, Religious Exploration, OWL, social justice efforts, friends, neighbors, a building

and people and programs for your spiritual home. As a single retiree, I think I can squeeze another \$25 a month out of my mostly limited income toward keeping AUUF going. How about the rest of you?

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Tuesdays Feb 8th, 15th, and 22nd from 6-8 pm will be the times for our next session of Finding Your Way into Fellowship (online using Zoom). These 3 days give folks time to really learn about UU, AUUF, and how it fits into their own spiritual journey. If you are wanting to become a member of AUUF or just want to learn a whole lot more about AUUF, this is for you!

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



Download Vanco Mobile in the Apple App Store and Google Play.

Search for our church by name in the Vanco Mobile app.



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Half Portion for Social Action for January is Refugee Assistance & Immigration Services

Catholic Social Services Refugee Assistance & Immigration Services (RAIS) provides a bridge for refugees (individuals who have had to flee their countries of origin due to the tragedies of persecution and war) from their former life experiences to the new skills required for success in the United States. Through a focus on economic self-sufficiency, community integration, and respect for unique cultures, history, and traditions, RAIS creates an environment of compassion and encouragement for refugees to flourish. RAIS accomplishes this through multiple programs, Reception & Placement which welcomes new refugee arrivals, comprehensive and intensive case management, education & employment services, health programming, and an agricultural program.

The best way to help is to reach out to Nick Leone, <u>nleone@cssalaska.org</u> who can share our greatest need at the time. Thanks for supporting RAIS!

Go to anchorageuuf.org
Click on the Half-Portion note
at the bottom of the home page.
Enter your donation under
"Half-Portion for Social Action"

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Kelly Spring, Communications Specialist, communications@anchorageuuf.org Kelly's remote office hours Mon - Friday 9 am -1 pm

Megan Webb, Music Director, auufmusic@gmail.com

Rosene Beachy, Director of Lifespan Religious Exploration, rbeachy@alaskalife.net
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Rebecca Bernard, Ministerial Intern, 907-248-3737 x5, rbernard.ak@gmail.com Usually, Tuesdays 9 am-noon, 1-2 pm, and Wednesdays and Fridays 9 am-1 pm.

STAY CONNECTED





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ANCHORAGE INITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP diverse beliefs, common purpose.

Today At Your Fellowship Monday January 31, 2022

we belong to the grand communion...
we are the dust, the dust that hopes...
the dust that dances in the light
with all other dust...
that makes the world.

Rosemerry Wahtola Trommer



This Week @ AUUF

Find Zoom links here.

Monday 1/31/22

Tuesday 2/1/22

4:30 pm Forum Planning on Zoom 6:30 pm Anti-Racism Book Club on Zoom

Wednesday 2/2/22

5:30 pm CYRE Team Meeting on Zoom 6 pm Connections Team Meeting 7 pm Building & Grounds Meeting Saturday 2/5/2022

Sunday 2/6/2022

9 am Virtual Forum on Zoom

10:15 am RE Chalice Circle (Online all the time)

11 am Sunday Worship on Zoom *This I Believe*

Thursday 2/3/226 pm Choir Rehearsal on Zoom
7 pm Healthy Congregation Team
Meeting

Friday 2/4/22 12 pm Freethinkers on Zoom An exploration of our diverse beliefs With a panel of AUUF members.

12:30 pm Green Sanctuary Meeting

1 pm COA M& M Meeting

4-7 pm Sunday Small Group Chalice Circle

Half Portion for Social Action for January is <u>Refugee Assistance & Immigration Services</u>

Rev. Lise Away

Rev. Lise will be out of town attending a minister's meeting from January 30-Feb. 6, at which time she will be periodically available via email. After that, she's taking a week of vacation and will not be available except for major emergencies until Feb. 13. In her absence, please contact our ministerial intern, Rebecca Bernard, with any questions or pastoral situations at 907.244.3988.

AUUF will conduct Virtual Forum & Sunday Worship on Zoom through February.

Please stay safe everyone! We'll keep you posted when things change.

Pacific Western Region of UUA

By Peggy Robinson, Board Chair

A question was asked after Rev. Summer Albayati's sermon on Sunday about the status of our Pacific Northwest District (PNWD). The Pacific Western Region's board and the 4 district boards have been discussing dissolving the districts and merging all the functions into the Pacific Western Region. The meeting today was the vote by the Board members of PNWD to go forward with this, which passed unanimously. Two Board members from PNWD will have seats on the PWR Board.

<u>Update from Your PNWD Board: Intention to Dissolve | Pacific Northwest District of the UUA (pnwduua.org)</u>

Click here to read the entire article.



News from Religious Exploration From Rosene Beachy

We are thrilled that many of you have participated in events at the Fellowship this year. We had been rejoicing about our first Sunday in-person services only to have our joy muted for a

time! Zoom continues! The Children's Chalice Circle is live most Sundays at 10:15 am. Joint service Sundays (3 coming up) will be pre-recorded. And all are posted on the RE Facebook group page. If you are a family with registered kids and you want to join the page contact Rosene or find us online!

This has been a busier year! From Peace Camp until this winter, we have hadover **70 children and youth** participating in RE programming. Besides the RE

Elementary Chalice Circles, both Zoom and live, we have Coming of Age happening for 8-9th graders. We have had a High School OWL and are about to start a Jr High and Intermediate OWL as soon as we get back to in-person events. The Jr High youth are meeting once a month for activities either indoors or out. We look forward to seeing you all – hopefully soon.



Sledding event for the younger set or any age!!
1-3:00 pm Saturday, February 19
At Sunset Park (600 Vine Ave in Government Hill)
This is a wide, gentle, sledding hill with easy and steeper grades.



Register now! -AUUF Summer Camp - July 18 -22, 2022 !!

As you start making summer plans – Carve out a week of UU fun for your child who has completed $K-7^{th}$ grade. Mark your calendar for our 7^{th} annual "Peace Camp"!

Our UU summer Peace camp will be full of fun with friends. There will be new activities and workshops as well as some golden oldies! Yes, the bicycle rides will be on again, that seems to be a favorite with kids of all ages. Join us for a very fun week.

We will be outdoors again because that was so much fun! We will need several teen Camp Counselors, and also Parent volunteers for in-person camp. Check your mailbox, registration forms were mailed. If you did not receive one, they will be available on the RE Facebook page and AUUF website.

Junior and Senior Youth Sledding Party

2:00-4:00 pm Saturday, February 12

Calling all Junior Youth and Senior Youth!

AUUF has put a pause on all indoor gatherings for now, but the snow is glorious! We hope you'll join us for a sledding party at the Kincaid Chalet, on Saturday, February 12, 2:00-4:00 pm. Bring your sleds and helmets, and we'll provide the hot cocoa!

If you have any questions, please contact Jaime Olson at 907-947-8528 or Becca Bernard at 907-244-3988. We hope to see you there!



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Freethinkers

12 Noon, Friday, February 4, 2022

Owning Our Actions

by Cari Sayre

On Tyranny provided for a rich discussion of current affairs once again, as we delved into chapters about awareness, responsibility, and ethics. We talked about Citizens United, ranked-choice voting, the Koch Brothers, the filibuster, and tossed around ideas on how to make Congress a functioning institution again.

Click here to read the entire article.

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Ready... Set ... Go!

by Marie Lundstrom Stewardship Committee

Bang! That was the starting shot you just heard! The 2022 AUUF Pledge Drive is now hurtling at top speed to get everyone pledged by February 14. All AUUF households will be contacted by email with an

updated pledge form to fill out and return ASAP. By now, you should have a good idea of how much you can increase your previous pledge; but

if not, on the AUUF website, click on our Stewardship logo, then the Fair Share button for a contribution guide. Also, if you prefer a paper pledge form, you will find one there to download, fill out by hand, and mail-in.

Action now is crucial! Three-fourths of AUUF's budget is from pledges. Your Time and Talents are certainly important and appreciated, but your Treasure—money—is essential for all the things about the Fellowship you value—the Forum, Worship Services, choir, a minister, TAYF, administrator, music director, clean floors and bathrooms,

communications, furnace, sound system, Zoom sessions, Freethinkers, Fall Frolic, Peace Camp, meeting space, Religious Exploration, OWL, social justice efforts, friends, neighbors, a building

and people and programs for your spiritual home. As a single retiree, I think I can squeeze another \$25 a month out of my mostly limited income toward keeping AUUF going. How about the rest of you?



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